

RECORDING · THE · ELECTRICAL · ERA

VOL. XXXV

WASHINGTON, D. C., MARCH, 1936

NO. 3



Industrial Unionism : SOLUTION IN ENGLAND



# Are These "Good Drivers?"



The drivers we try to avoid on the road include

- The man who weaves in and out from one traffic lane to another, just to "get ahead".
- The one-arm driver who does his "petting" while the wheels of the car are moving as rapidly as those in his head.
- The man in the car behind who cannot pass in the lane unless we exceed the speed limit, and still looks as if it were our fault.
- The "speed demon" who tries to see how fast the car will go, and who does not mind if there is other traffic.
- The man who "beats the lights" and crosses as the caution light turns to red, regardless of traffic coming the other way.
- The man who does not dim his lights in the country when passing us.
- The man who is careless about the condition of his brakes.

A thousand pounds of rolling metal and rubber can be a dangerous weapon, both to those in an automobile and those in the road, unless it is under careful control.

Since its organization in 1924, **Union Cooperative** has paid to **policyholders and beneficiaries more than four million nine hundred thousand dollars**, and from this experience we can well say—

**"LIVE AND LET LIVE".**



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Washington, D. C.



# OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL ELECTRICAL WORKERS AND OPERATORS

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This Journal will not be held responsible for views expressed by correspondents.

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## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

International President, D. W. TRACY,  
1200 15th St., N. W., Washington,  
D. C.

International Secretary, G. M. BUG-  
NIAZET, 1200 15th St., N. W., Wash-  
ington, D. C.

International Treasurer, W. A. HOGAN,  
647 South Sixth Ave., Mt. Vernon,  
N. Y.

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Winnipeg, Can.

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President JULIA O'CONNOR  
5 Boylston Place, Boston, Mass.

Secretary MARY BRADY  
5 Boylston Place, Boston, Mass.

## Magazine Chat

The verse "Wires" which has true poetic quality was written by a working lineman. We picture him alone on top of the high poles that serve the trans-continental high tension lines, viewing the rolling country-side and thinking his solitary thoughts. The harvest of these lonely vigils is gathered in this verse called "Wires".

A human interest angle is supplied by the fact that the lineman requests that his identity shall not be revealed by this Journal. He says, "I don't want these mugs to laugh at me."

Our membership, alive to the new advances of electrical science, has written frequently to this Journal requesting information in regard to air conditioning, neon lighting and Diesel engines. We are proud to announce a new series of articles by the qualified writer, Austin C. Lescarboursa, on the technical aspects of some of the new electrical developments.

**Announcing a series  
of articles by Austin  
C. Lescarboursa, Mem-  
ber A. I. E. E. and  
I. R. E., on oil burners,  
air conditioning and  
neon lighting.**

Our Journal continues to make friends inside and outside of the union. A public official recently wrote to this publication: "I have never seen the Journal before but I liked it very much, especially from the standpoint of its wide interest in public welfare."

## Contents

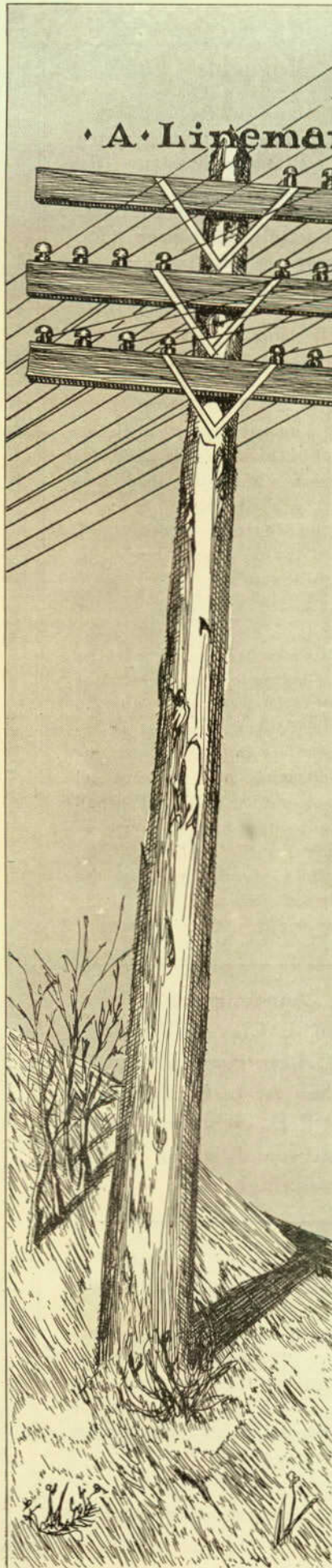
Page

Frontispiece—"Wires" . . . . .	94
British Evaluate Industrial Unionism . . . . .	95
Evolution of a Great Organization . . . . .	98
Serving a Great Industry . . . . .	99
I. B. E. W. States Position on Radio Workers . . . . .	100
Facts on Reputed Shortage of Mechanics . . . . .	101
Condensers and Condenser-Start Motors . . . . .	102
Public Opinion Responds to Jersey Campaign . . . . .	104
Electrical Science Impinges Upon Mechanical . . . . .	105
Tracy Refutes Popular Housing Fallacies . . . . .	106
Building Unions Press for Public Housing . . . . .	107
Railroad Labor Board Endures Midst Flux . . . . .	108
7-Week Strike Won with Laughter . . . . .	109
When Wealth Lacks Social Vision . . . . .	110
New San Diego Fair 100 Per Cent Union . . . . .	111
Labor in Chains Always Regimented . . . . .	112
Casey's Chronicles of the Work World . . . . .	113
Editorial . . . . .	114
Woman's Work . . . . .	116
Correspondence . . . . .	118
In Memoriam . . . . .	136
Local Union Official Receipts . . . . .	139



• A Lineman's Litany • To God • And • Man •

# WIRES



Where do they go, what do they do.  
This spiderweb that covers the earth?  
Overhead, underfoot, and everywhere they follow you,  
Carrying the life blood of the civilized world.

From giant generators, through the wires they go,  
On to factory and farm and village.  
To the city, and into the homes with their life-like glow,  
And also to the shanty with lights so dim.

Over the highway, byway, path and trail.  
They wend their way, over swamps, over rivers.  
And even under the sea over which ships sail,  
Endlessly, they go their sinuous ways.

God took dust, breathed into it and called it man;  
Then he roamed earth chasing its mysteries;  
Then man found copper, breathed life into it and began  
To borrow from the bank of nature.

The ages left their treasures for him to find;  
They left their gems for him to search for.  
Old nature locked her doors to grind  
Out her mysteries and dare him who searches.

With search, the man did succeed;  
That's how wires were born.  
Of drudgery and slavery it freed  
Millions and lengthened the life of others.

God, the greatest engineer,  
Did what mortal ones could not.  
He told man in some way very queer,  
How to make light bulbs glow with raindrops.

Out of the clouds to the earth below,  
On the mountain sides they start  
Their journey: onward to the sea they flow,  
Over the waterfalls that human beavers made.

The stars were lanterns that God gave to man  
Until the man searched his mind and earth.  
Suddenly out of the dark into the burning light he ran  
Until he paused to ponder what was at hand.

The brilliantly illuminated canopy of God's theatre,  
Venus, Mars, Saturn, the milky way.  
The name in the lights can only be read by the Creator,  
Who unfolds His drama of eternity.

God's spotlight—the sun,  
The everlasting light of existence.  
The man tried to do what God had done;  
His puny efforts are small compared to the Almighty's.

The Celestial Operator laughs at His universal pawns,  
Whose fate He undoubtedly controls;  
He then throws the switch! And it dawns.  
God's creation, the sun! Earth creature you have only begun.

FLORIS KOMAR.





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## British Evaluate Industrial Unionism

I. Hull

THE scene is Hull. The British Trade Union Congress is in session. The delegates are aware that some important motion is about to be proposed. A member of the Miners Federation arises. He moves a resolution which brings to the fore the question of union structure and precipitates a four-year debate on the question of industrial unionism. This miner states: "One might truly say that trade unionism, literally speaking, should be abolished." He desires that the British labor movement co-ordinate all its energies. "In doing that we will not necessarily serve the craft in particular but the class in general."

The next speaker is a member of the Locomotive Engineers and Firemen. He sees the gauge of battle thrown down. He says: "This resolution, if carried, will mean that many of the old unions will go out of existence. Suppose the report of the general council is accepted. What will become of the great craft unions which in the past have built the foundations on which we stand? It will be no longer known. They will be split up among the various industries."

Another speaker, a member of the Workers Union, thereupon strikes a keynote which runs throughout the four-year debate. He asks: "What is industry? We have heard people tell us that the scientific way is that of organization by industry. No one has attempted to define what is industry."

All through the remarks at the Hull Congress runs the idea of one big union. A member of the National Union of General Workers asks: "Why cannot we organize our people under one great head and departmentalize our efforts?" Thus on that September morning in Hull is the problem stated and the debate begun.

### II. Scarborough

A year has rolled around. The great Congress of the British Labor Empire opens its meeting at Scarborough. A year has enabled the committee appointed at Hull to work out a long memorandum upon the meaning of the Hull resolution and upon its implications. This memorandum becomes an important document—probably the most exhaustive study of trade union structure yet made by trade unionists throughout the world. The memorandum was prepared by W. M. Citrine, then assistant secretary of the

**Thumbs down on industrial form. Can not be accomplished without dictatorship. Voluntary principle must be preserved. Industry impossible to define. Four-year investigation, and dramatic solution throwing vivid light upon present struggle in A. F. of L.**

British Trade Union Congress, now secretary. Early in this memorandum Mr. Citrine declared: "We must avoid any action which will lead to dissension or friction among the unions as would defeat the primary action of the resolution." The memorandum analyzes the Hull resolution as having three goals in mind.

1. Reduction in the number of unions.
2. Organization by industry.
3. The united front.

The memorandum finds in the British movement in general five forms of organization:

1. Class or general unionism.
2. Industrial unionism.
3. Occupational unionism.
4. Federal unionism.
5. Craft unionism.

The memorandum remarks "any attempted regimentation of unions in accordance with the preconceived plan of organization would inevitably lead to the splitting up of Congress into fragmentary sections." It goes on to say that the Hull resolution actually places upon the general council the obligation of evolving the form of organization. The memorandum then describes the state of unionism at this hour in Great Britain: "Trade unionism has developed to meet contingencies as they have risen. It reveals trade unionism in various stages of development. There are the simple forms of single craft organizations. There are the unions in which two or more related crafts have come together and formed amalgamated unions which as they have developed have absorbed craft after craft. There are the unions approximating in theory, if not in practice, to industrial unions. There are those which might better be described as occupational unions, and those composed of associations of federated unions which

function like industrial units. Then, there are the masses of general workers, organized almost without regard to trade or occupation. There are numbers of federated groups more or less closely linked together."

The memorandum now undertakes to examine certain proposals looking toward fulfillment of the Hull resolution. It asks: "Is one big union practicable?" It answers this question: "The task of its achievement would be enormous. It would mean nothing more or less than the complete amalgamation of all existing unions into one huge aggregation. Amalgamations could proceed without any guide or direction. \* \* \* Despite its being advocated by certain speakers at the Hull Congress, and desirable as its consummation undoubtedly is, the one big union cannot be regarded as a practicable possibility at present."

The memorandum now leads up to the question of industrial unionism. It states: "It might very well be that the centralization of trade union power, either in the form of the one big union or the industrial union, would for a period at least be welcome by the employers. [Editor's note: There is little doubt that this is true in America today because spokesmen for employers like Hugh Johnson and Gerard Swope have repeatedly advocated the industrial form.] The tactics of the employers' organizations of Sweden and Denmark have been in recent years to use the lockout to intimidate the workers' highly centralized organizations. There is unquestionable danger to the employers in the pursuit of these tactics, but trade unionists must recognize that the centralization of trade union effort would tend to diminish the freedom of activity of individual groups of workers, might lead to diminution in the number of strikes, might make it difficult for local initiative to display itself and would unquestionably develop the struggle with capitalism into broader and broader spheres of conflict."

The memorandum now asks: "Is industrial unionism now possible?" The answer given is as follows: "When we come down to a practical consideration of the possibilities of industrial unionism we are faced with the fact that the rate of industrial development has not taken place uniformly throughout industries. In certain industries it is more advanced than in others. Similarly, with trade union organization, both from the standpoint of numerical organization and wage negotiation. Where the industry



is highly centralized there is, in some cases, one union numerically vastly superior to the remainder, and in such cases this union might well form the nucleus round which the new organization in that industry would be created. An examination of the industrial groups attached to the general council, however, shows that it is only in such cases as mining, railways, transport, shipbuilding, leather, and agriculture, that the mass of productive workers, as distinct from the ancillary workers, can be regarded as strictly as in one industry. In most of the other instances the unions are merely a series of related occupations stretching out into other groups as well.

"Where an industry has become highly centralized, and its principal negotiations are conducted through one organization, there would appear to be a claim that that union should have the right of control over all employed in the industry. This central organization should have the certain knowledge that in time of trade dispute a strike could be made complete throughout the industry. The question as to its being the sole negotiating power with the employers is also a matter for serious consideration. But apart from the difficulty of defining industries, there is the fact that beyond a few industries the grouping of the unions is as to make industrial unionism difficult of realization without the splitting up of existing unions. The bitterness and strife which would be immediately aroused by any attempt on the part of the general council to do this would destroy all hope of the united front that the Hull resolution calls for. Industrial unionism is attainable only when the industry has reached a certain stage of development, and as there is only a comparatively small number which have done this, we may regard industrial unionism as a general plan of organization as being impossible of early application."

The memorandum describes occupational unionism as follows: "Occupational unionism is distinct from industrial unionism in the sense that its divisions traverse horizontally across the field of workers and not vertically as in the case of industrial unionism."

The memorandum believes that occupational unionism can not be regarded as conforming to the Hull resolution.

In discussing federal unionism the memorandum points out that the Miners Federation is not an industrial union at all—"is itself nothing more than an association of county federations." And it goes on to say "If it is argued that the Miners Federation really meant 'industrial unionism' when putting forward organization by industry, a logical answer would be the federation should apply the doctrine to itself." It goes on to say, "The powers of existing federations such as the Transport Workers' Federation, the Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades, could in this way be assimilated by the general council" and "with suitable financial responsibility, federal unionism might well become a really effective working class instrument."

The memorandum describes "Confederation" as a larger unit of federations. The memorandum states that even craft unions are undergoing changes: "Instance after instance can be given where craft unions have gradually absorbed the semi and unskilled workers brought into contact with the craftsmen members, either as assistants or general laborers. These unions cannot strictly be described as craft unions, as it would appear that the enrollment of unskilled and semi-skilled workers changes the form of the union and makes it something wider than a craft union. In a sense we have in such cases an approximation to occupational unionism."

The memorandum closes with this forceful statement: "The central fact to be recognized is that all unions are not in the same state of development, and it is almost impossible to dogmatize as to what form of organization should be adopted. Each industry requires separate examination." The memorandum then requires that further study of trade union organization be made by sending out questionnaires to all important unions.

### III. Bournemouth

The scene now shifts to Bournemouth. It is the third year in the debate on industrial unionism. The committee has been busy. They prepared an elaborate questionnaire which sought to throw light on the following questions:

- The structure of the various industries and lines of demarcation between them.
- Suggestions for the unification of the forces in each industry.
- Provision for the transfer of workers between industries whereby all trade union members entitled to benefits may be retained.
- Suggestions for a uniform minimum standard of contribution and benefit to apply to all industries.

The answers to these questionnaires were not made by all unions but in the pages of the report much is said about trends and tendencies among the unions to draw closer together in amalgamations and federations. The report remarks: "The difficulty in organizing the building unions on industrial lines appears to lie mainly in the very strong craft feeling shown by one or two important unions, and at the present time many laborers are leaving the unions, whereas the craft organizations are increasing membership. There is also the difficulty of widely differing contributions and benefits, some of the unions concentrating almost entirely on trade benefits and others having an elaborate system of friendly benefits."

It analyzes the underlying causes of the resistance by trade unionists to amalgamation:

"(a) Loss of Autonomy.—The persistent fear on the part of small unions, upon entering amalgamation negotiations, that their membership may be merely absorbed. They fear the loss of autonomy, and that adequate representation on the new executive body will

not be afforded their particular section or craft.

"(b) Contributions and Benefits.—The marked difference between the rates of contributions and benefits of kindred unions.

"(c) Funds.—The disinclination of a union to reduce its assets per member.

"(d) Policy.—Conflicting policy in organization and conduct of affairs.

"(e) Officials.—The difficulty often arising in connection with placing officials. Each union desires that its officers shall not lose status, and provision has to be made for security of tenure for perhaps a limited period, with compensation in cases of redundancy."

### IV. Edinburgh

The northern city of Edinburgh became the scene of the final, stubborn contest over union structure. The ad interim committee after having studied the data secured by sending out questionnaires to the trade unions and having at its disposal the results of three years' debate in the British trade union movement now made its momentous report. This committee, as did the others, found it impossible to define industry. It stated: "The three principal determining factors which are advanced are

1. the commodity produced or the service rendered;
2. the tool operated; and
3. the employer or group of employers.

The committee disposes of all three of these contentions thus:

"Those contending that the commodity determines the boundary of industry would argue that all those engaged in the production of cotton materials are in one industry, those producing woollen and worsted materials in another. If, however, the tool is to be the determining factor the engineers and maintenance men in both these industries might claim that they belonged to the engineering industry and not to either the cotton or the woollen industry. In the same way, the dyeing and finishing of both classes of goods might be regarded as an industry, and whilst this contention is not put forward by the unions engaged in dyeing and finishing, in actual practice organization takes place irrespective of the fact as to whether the commodity dyed is cotton or woollen.

"The multiplicity of undertakings controlled by certain companies would lead to chaos were an attempt made generally to apply the conception that the employer should determine the boundary of industry, but in the case where this view is most strongly represented there happens to be a more clear cut division than exists in many instances which might be quoted. The N. U. R. are the strongest adherents to this view, and assert that the railway 'industry' should not be confined to the actual service of railway transport, but that the whole of the undertakings owned and controlled by the railway companies should be included in the 'industry.' This contention, however, is strongly contested by craft unions, and no more notable in-



stance can be recorded than that afforded by the railway shops, where an intense struggle has existed between the N. U. R. and the craft unions, and where only recently has it been possible to achieve some measure of agreement.

"After very careful consideration of the problem, the general council has been forced to the conclusion that as it is impossible to define any fixed boundaries of industry, it is impracticable to formulate a scheme of organization by industry that can be made applicable to all industries."

The report stresses that any scheme of wider co-operation is impracticable unless "individual unions express their desire to co-operate or merge with kindred organizations." The committee said it has made a study of those amalgamations that have taken place and it states "the experience derived from these and other amalgamations over a lengthy period of years reveals many difficulties which demonstrate the futility of trying to approach amalgamation except with whole-hearted co-operation from the participating unions."

Thus ruling against industrial unionism or any other form of amalgamation that implied, or required regimentation and force to accomplish its purpose, the committee's report was filed with the Edinburgh congress. It precipitated long debate before the vote was taken.

The attack upon the committee's report was led by a member of the Amalgamated Engineers' union. He felt that the fact that the council did not solve the problem left the union movement in a hopeless condition. He was answered by a member of municipal and general workers' organization. He said: "I am not surprised to find that the general council have found it impracticable to define an industry. Let me remind those who today are likely to wax eloquent in opposition to this report, that a few months ago in the House of Commons, when the Trade Disputes and Trade Unions Bill was introduced, speaker after speaker from the Labour benches poured ridicule upon the attorney-general because he was unable to define an industry for them. \* \* \* After all, trade unionism still exists upon a voluntary basis."

A member of the powerful Transport Workers union which has members in many industries said: "It is rather significant today that the reference back is proposed by an engineer and seconded by a miner. We must now assume that they are in perfect agreement in those two unions as to what the meaning of industrial organization is. Ever since I have been attending congress I have found them with an entirely different point of view as to the meaning or extent of industrial organization. \* \* \* The British trade union movement is an awkward animal if you try to locate it. You can not make a man leave the union and the men he has been associated with all his life for some theory. He will not do it, and no scheme you can organize in this congress can make men transfer against their will."

Another member of the municipal and



LONDON—THE LAW COURTS.

general workers attacked the miner's position. He said: "The miners roughly claim that, in their judgment, coal should be followed through all its manufacturing processes. Does that mean that there ought to be chemical workers working in the dye works in the Miners' Federation? (A Voice: "No.") But if you are logical you will follow your raw material to its destination and claim that the miners should get into the dye works and organize in that industry. Take an engineer. Does an engineer claim when his member is working in the chemical industry, taking from the J. I. C. all its benefits regulated and controlled by the J. I. C., that he shall not welcome a member of the general workers who have organized the chemical industry, or do they want him still to remain an engineer? Those are only some of the problems this committee had to face, and I say in support of the committee's action that it is far better to work along the lines we are now doing, regarding amalgamation through federation. There are friends here who send their representatives to the end of the world pleading for federation with the Americans or the Europeans who will not pay a penny piece for their federations at home. There are people here who plead for organization who will fight an organized body of workmen and leave alone the non-unionists."

A member of the general council pointed out that "our trouble was that the expert witnesses from the unions could not define their own industries. Witnesses from the Miners' Federation were not at all clear where they would draw the line, and under cross-examination it emerged not that it was a question of confining the job to coal getting, but they wanted to extend it right through the whole range of the operations of the companies, and not merely the colliery companies, but the pottery and other companies, the brickmakers and the iron workers. They wanted the whole caboodle brought under the Miners' Federation. Would you have liked us to

have accepted that definition? \* \* \*

When you come to consider how the industries run into one another in all directions you realize the difficulties. The furnishing trade, for instance, goes into every constructional trade there is. In shipbuilding and railway work, wherever you want fancy woodwork the furnishing trade comes in. The furnishing man has to come in and polish it up. It does not matter what industry you take. It is the same. Take the cotton and textile industries. The practices in those industries are very different from what they are in miscellaneous industries or in the building industry."

After the conclusion of this long debate, the vote was taken to either support the report of the general council against organization by industrial unions or to reject it. For the committee's report: 2,062,000. Against the committee's report: 1,809,000. Thereupon other resolutions were put in from the floor attempting to get the industrial union program accepted and it failed. The long four-year debate was over.

## V. Summary

There are only two large countries in the world where the trade union movement is now strong—Great Britain and the United States. The nations where the workers sought to precipitate premature conflicts with employers and organize on wider and wider fields have resulted in Germany and Italy and Austria in complete reversals to the workers. In England and the United States where reason still prevails, where voluntary unionism is exalted, the labor movement still goes forward.

The momentous debate resting upon factual counts in the British trade union movement stresses the following facts and principles:

1. It is a subject which must be carried on by research rather than by a mere struggle for power.
2. It is impossible to define an industry.

(Continued on page 134)



# Evolution of a Great Organization

**T**HE development of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers has followed closely the changes in the electrical industry wrought by the advances in electrical science. The Brotherhood is 45 years old. In its nearly half a century of life, it has pushed organization and carried the philosophy of labor into every section of a fast-growing, intricate industry. It has set its mark on every section of that industry and is a recognized factor in it. Its leadership is more secure today than at any time in the history of the union. Despite the disastrous depression, it has emerged from the misfortunes of the past six years not only a going concern, but as a vital, close-knit entity. Progress has been made all along the line. Losses in membership, due to the depression, have been recovered.

The secret of this progress has been the management policies of the union, successfully pursued over many years. Leadership has come out of the practical ranks. Men, who have worked for long periods of time with tools in every branch of the industry, who have been tested in local union organization, and then in state work, and then in international field work, have taken command of the International Office, and brought to bear upon the problems of the organization a wide view and idealism of purpose. The International Office is a place where a narrow conception of union management does not exist. Contact with management in many of the branches of the industry has been close and in many branches of the organization the union has participated in management problems. The International Office is a modern office. Trained persons with veteran experience handle each problem that concerns the organization. Only in such wise could a complex organization like the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers be operated. The electrical industry is not a primitive industry. It is probably the most advanced industry in the United States and the success of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers is an indication of sound management policies and practices.

## Wide-spread Services

When the NRA was in effect in Washington, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers participated

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**Beginning with the origin of the electrical industry, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers has followed intricate lines of that industry's development.**

---

closely in the development of six codes, in six basic and major industries. It has had an honorable part in the development of the Panama Canal and the Tennessee Valley enterprise. It has electrified some of the greatest railroad systems of the United States. No skyscraper in the country of any importance arose without the co-operation of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. The central office, therefore, is an intelligence office, intimately aware not only of the problems of the workers in the industry but the problems of management and the industry as a whole. To view this center of union management in a narrow light, therefore, is to be uninformed.

Going back to the early days of the union when it was founded in 1891 in St. Louis, we discover that the origin of the union was with linemen, men who had learned the value of union organization through the hard school of experience by contacts with many communities throughout the country. But even these men

who were linemen at the very beginning of the union looked upon their organization as one that would include other branches of the industry. The first name given to the organization was National Brotherhood of Electrical Workers of America. This did not refer to linemen merely, nor to inside workers. It was later changed to the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and Operators. This change of name looked to a wider inclusion to men and women within the industry.

Glancing over the careers of the last four presidents of the organization we find that one was an inside worker from the construction field; the second a lineman; the third an inside worker from the construction field; and the fourth an electric utility and construction man.

The jurisdiction of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers is a broad one. The charter granted by the American Federation of Labor plainly states that it is granted "for the purpose of entire organization of the trade." Within the constitution of the union there immediately follows the statement that "there must be a systematized knowledge of the science of electricity"—which appears to indicate clearly that the science of electricity is to be the bond that connects worker to worker, and that the organization is to go where electricity goes.

## Electrical Science Leads Way

Turning again to the question of jurisdiction, the constitution of the union recognizes the complexity of the electrical industry. It names 18 categories within the work of outside electrical worker. It names 18 categories within the division of inside electrical worker.

Beginning then with men who had learned the value of organization as linemen, the union has followed the course of electrical science into all branches of the electrical industry under the guidance of modern management practices. It operates in the field of electrical construction, electric light and power, marine, public power, transportation, manufacturing, radio broadcasting and sound, and telephone. Members no longer look upon their organization as a primitive instrument merely to secure through force of arms

(Continued on page 138)

## THE PICKET SONG

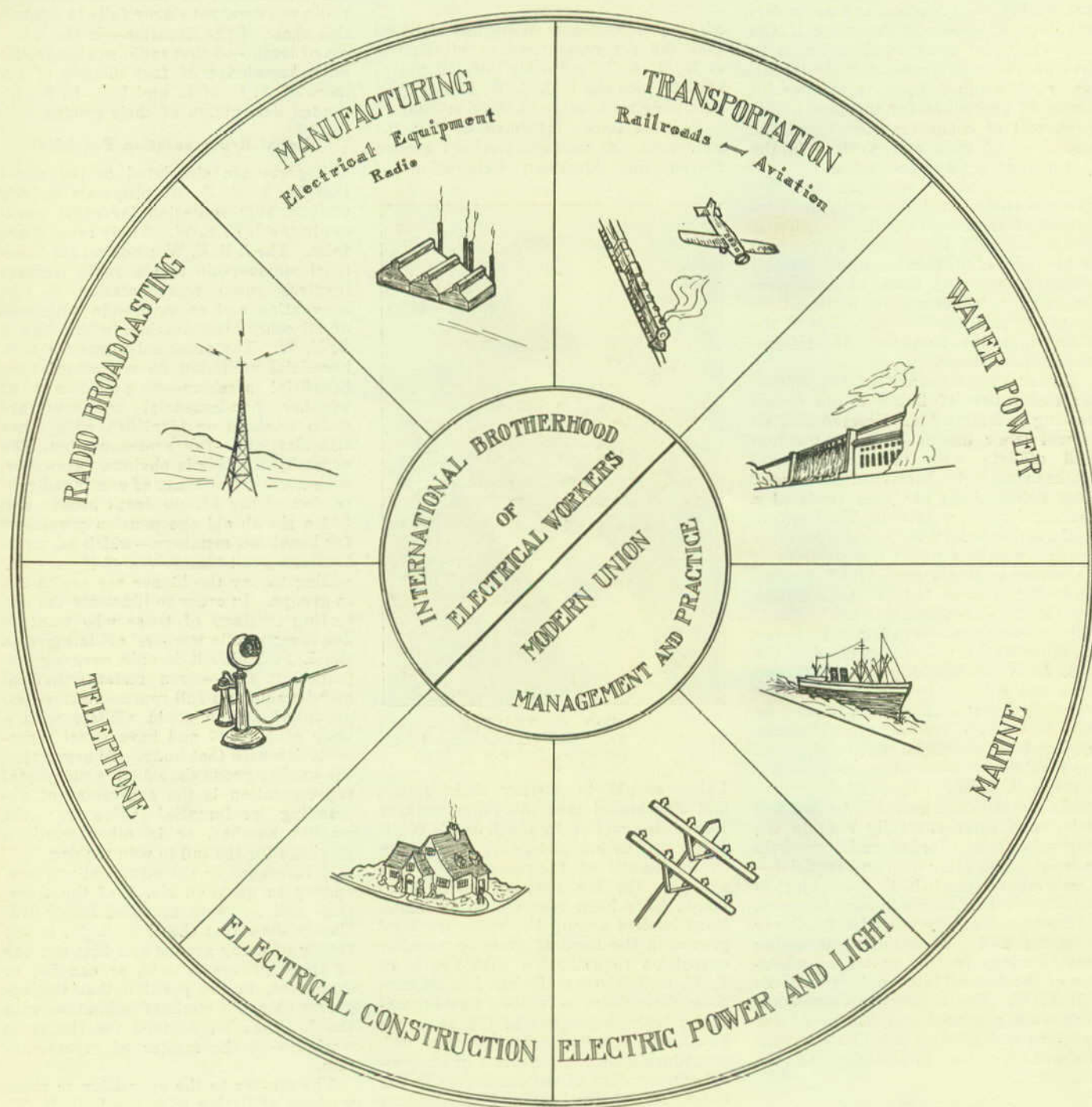
By ELLA HOWARD

Tramp, tramp, tramp, the boys are marching,  
Pickets walking up and down.  
They are marching for the cause,  
Steadfast feet that never pause,  
To defend the union's war in New York town.  
Tramp, tramp, tramp, the shadows lengthen,  
But the pickets still persist.  
They are keeping up their fight,  
On the coldest winter night  
They will still support their brother technician.  
One, two, three, the cheers are rising  
For the boys who give their aid.  
Hear the paving stones resound—  
It's a reassuring sound,  
For it means a victory in our great crusade.

(Wife of Union Member)



## SERVING A GREAT INDUSTRY





# I. B. E. W. States Position on Radio Workers

**P**RESIDENT TRACY has sent the following letter to local unions:  
February 12, 1936.

Dear Sir and Brother:

This letter is addressed to your local union through you for the purpose of acquainting the membership with facts that we believe pertinent and an understanding of which is necessary if the membership of your local union is to have an adequate opportunity to intelligently determine upon a successful course of procedure for them to follow in pursuit of economic justice and the promotion of their own welfare in the field of industry and production.

It is particularly essential that this true knowledge of facts be in the possession of those making the decision if group economic determination is a goal to be reached dispassionately—without sentiment and as a result of intelligent reasoning of requirements beneficial to the group as a whole—regardless of the effect upon the ambitions of self-promoting individuals.

The executive council of the American Federation of Labor at its recent meeting in Miami, Fla., directed that all federal labor unions of radio workers shall affiliate with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Since this decision has been rendered a meeting has been held in Washington, D. C., on February 8, 9 and 10. This meeting was held under the auspices of the National Radio and Allied Trades, consisting of some federal labor unions and some independent unions.

Prior to this meeting James B. Carey and John McGill visited the office of the I. B. E. W. in Washington, D. C., and conferred with us relative to terms of proposals for affiliation to be offered by the I. B. E. W. We offered two proposals, one involving beneficial membership and one involving non-beneficial membership in the I. B. E. W. Copies of these proposals are attached hereto. As you will understand after carefully reading the proposals they afforded radio workers optional—beneficial or non-beneficial—membership in the I. B. E. W., subject to respective group choice in each instance.

During the conference with us, Carey presented a list of questions involving considerations in the matter of affiliation of the federal labor unions with the I. B. E. W. The answers to these questions were prepared and a copy of the questions and answers are also herewith attached for the information of the membership.

## Conference Refused

Before leaving the office of the I. B. E. W., Carey advised us that the meeting of the representatives of N. R. A. T. would desire to hear from me regarding the proposed terms of affiliation. It is left to your own judgment, however, as to what sincerity of purpose prompted Carey's invitation to me to address the meeting of N. R. A. T. representatives

## President Tracy informs membership of situation created by distorted practices of dual group.

after you are now truthfully advised that the representatives in attendance at N. R. A. T. definitely decided not to affiliate with the I. B. E. W. before even admitting me to address those present.

Because Carey informed us that the membership of the radio workers' groups feared the American Federation of

of the I. B. E. W. toward the action of the A. F. of L. in granting the federal labor unions charters and he knew of his own previous visits to the electrical workers' office during the time the I. B. E. W. constitution was being prepared for amendment to meet the needs of radio workers, yet Carey fails to explain this phase of the situation—in the interest of truth—so that radio workers could on a knowledge of fact dispose of rumors of A. F. of L. and I. B. E. W. intended destruction of their groups.

## Equal Representation Provided

Reports are circulated to the effect that the I. B. E. W. proposals embody unequal representation for radio workers in the I. B. E. W. These reports are false. The I. B. E. W. proposal for beneficial membership to the radio workers involves equal representation in the convention and on referenda with that of all other classifications within the I. B. E. W. The proposed terms for non-beneficial affiliation do not afford non-beneficial members—regardless of whether non-beneficial members are radio workers or identified with other classifications—full representation. The necessity for this is obvious. However, such necessity consists of continued protection of the \$1,000 death benefit and \$40 a month old age pension provisions for beneficial members—which all members can avail themselves of if they are willing to pay the higher per capita tax in groups. In order to illustrate the distorting strategy of those who want to discourage radio workers' affiliation with the I. B. E. W. it is only necessary to point out that—even under beneficial membership and full representation—no group of 15,000 could affiliate with a body of 149,000 and have equal representation with that body. To argue that the smaller group should have such equal representation is the equivalent of demanding preferential voice for the smaller number, or in other words a privilege for the tail to wag the dog.

A reference to the electrical workers' answer to question No. 1 of the Questions and Answers attached hereto will clearly show that the I. B. E. W. is one family of many groups and that not one of those groups is now, or can be, or should be, in the position that the opposers to radio workers' affiliation with the I. B. E. W. demand for the radio workers—in the matter of representation.

The answer to the opposition to radio workers affiliation with the I. B. E. W. is probably found in press reports that advise that the N. R. A. T. representatives' conference in Washington decided on the formation of a national organization. The inconsistency of such position is indicated clearly in an analysis of the oft-repeated statement that federal labor unions of radio workers could not make progress because of the interfer-

(Continued on page 134)



DAN W. TRACY,  
President, International Brotherhood of  
Electrical Workers.

Labor sought to destroy their groups and also stated that the radio workers feared destruction by the I. B. E. W., it is felt that such notions did not originate in the minds of the members of the groups. On the contrary such statements have been resorted to by ambitious leaders among the radio workers' groups in the hope of creating member opposition to affiliation with the I. B. E. W. while those ambitious leaders continue their effort to create a new organization with themselves at the head, regardless of the detrimental effect of such procedure upon the prospects of successful organization of the employees in the radio manufacturing and assembling field.

Substantiating this view you are advised that the A. F. of L. granted the federal labor unions charters with the consent and approval of the I. B. E. W. for a period of time enabling the electrical workers to provide for membership of radio workers in the I. B. E. W. at membership costs within reach. Carey was reminded that he knew the attitude



# Facts on Reputed Shortage of Mechanics

**B**IG business, which has been traditionally opposed to organized labor, now finds that it must look to organized skilled mechanics for manpower when, and as, business improves. This situation does not appeal to anti-union employers. As a result there is beginning to filter through the press the misstatement that there is a shortage of skilled labor in the United States. This misstatement serves two purposes: first, it serves as the base for anti-union employers to establish certain new industrial policies which they wish to establish; and, second, it appears to create confidence in the fact that prosperity is just around the corner.

The analysis by these anti-union employers of depression conditions which have affected the supply of skilled labor does have truth in it. In the main, there were three conditions which have materially affected mechanics:

1. Many mechanics in order to earn a living at all have left their jobs where skill is involved to take lesser jobs. Some of them are driving taxicabs, some are farming, some are in mass production industries.

2. Facing the bitter problem of unemployment, unions have not brought apprentices along as rapidly and in such numbers as they do in good times, as there was no employment for them.

3. By natural processes—accident, death and retirement—many mechanics have passed out of the field of active labor.

## Automatic Machinery Adopted

Another factor in the enveloping propaganda on the shortage of skilled labor is the rapid replacement of men by automatic machinery. This process which has been commented on often by labor has not been much arrested during the depression. Big business does not like to admit that technological unemployment is growing. Big business is still clinging to the myth that machines supply as many jobs as they take away. So again to shout that there is a shortage of skilled labor, covers up the salient fact that machines are replacing men at a rapid rate and creating a permanent reservoir of unemployed eligibles.

Not long ago Alvin Dodd, executive vice president of American Management Association, spoke in Chicago. He said:

"Industry is facing a serious shortage of skilled workers. The pinch is already being felt and will grow more acute as business continues on the upgrade. The situation affects not only finely skilled workers but skilled and semi-skilled workers. Industry is running around trying to train men to fill these jobs, but the problem is not yet solved."

As early as 1934 one of the better correspondence schools was using the reputed shortage of skilled labor as a reason for younger men taking courses in that school. This periodical pointed

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**Part of the program of "business as usual" despite the growing ranks of unemployed. Figures do not support contention.**

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out that American industry ceased late in 1929 to teach skilled men. It asserted that one-fourth of our states report no apprentice training programs. Three-fourths of the states were training only



31,595 apprentices in 170 trades and occupations. This periodical states: "Employers have been too busy trying to keep the men they had to pay new workers for the privilege of teaching them to be useful."

**The truth is there is no shortage of skilled labor in the United States.**

The figures on unemployment gathered by the research department of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the figures on unemployment gathered by the American Federation of Labor, and the figures on unemployment gathered by the statistical departments of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration all show that there are hundreds of thousands of skilled mechanics now unemployed. Let us glance at figures drawn from the careful classification of those on relief of the federal government by occupations:

## Building Trades

Skilled mechanics, unemployed... 492,575  
Apprentices, unemployed ..... 870,574

## Manufacturing Industries

Skilled mechanics, unemployed... 244,739  
Apprentices, unemployed ..... 310,401

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers had an experience not long ago. A known union manufacturing firm of Dayton, Ohio, reported to Washington a shortage of skilled electricians. The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers offered to supply these skilled electricians and they were refused. This, of course, is the gist of the whole matter. Big business is on strike against organized labor. It does not want to employ union men, so it is reporting everywhere that there is a shortage of skilled workers.

## Skill vs. Machines

In the cases of the introduction of machinery studied, the five enumerated factors combine in a great variety of ways to bring about great differences in the displacement of skill suffered. The fortunate outcome in the introduction of the linotype was due to the low displacing power of the machine, the large extent of the use of skilled men as co-operant workers and as machine operators, together with an increase in production. The almost equally fortunate outcome in the case of the semi-automatic bottle machine was due to the low displacing power of the machine, the small part of the whole trade involved, the use of skilled men as operators, combined with a rapid increase in the use of almost all forms of glass containers. The great displacement of skill in the introduction of the stone-planer was due to a combination of high displacing power, small use of skilled workers in connection with the machine process, and no expansion in production. A combination of very high displacing power, no use of skilled workers in the machine process, the rapid extension of the machine to the different products of the handworker, despite a very rapid growth in production, was responsible for the disastrous experience of the bottle-blowers with automatic bottle machinery.

\* \* \* In a group of cases of the introduction of machinery, the variability in the force of the mechanical attacking factors is greater than in that of the economic salvaging factors. From this point of view, therefore, the leading element in determining the displacement of skill is the amount of the disturbance, measured chiefly by the labor-displacing power of the machine and the rapidity with which it invades the trade. If the disturbance is large, the displacement will also, probably, be large.

GEORGE E. BARNETT.



# Condensers and Condenser-Start Motors

By AUSTIN C. LESCARBOURA, Mem. A. I. E. E. Mem. I. R. E.

(First of a series)

THINGS move fast in this electrical art of ours, but nothing has ever moved so fast as the development of the condenser-start motor which forms the basis of the inexpensive electric refrigerator, oil burner, washing machine and other motor-driven devices. Less than five years ago the condenser manufacturers found ways and means of producing satisfactory electrolytic condensers of huge capacity and low price.

Today, some two million or more such condensers are supplying the starting means for fractional horsepower motors. The development has been so rapid that many an electrician may well be puzzled as to what it is all about. And he would not have to lose any sleep over the matter except that condenser failure is usually the main thing that can go wrong with these motor-driven appliances, and many of the early electrolytic condensers are now wearing out and need replacement. Hence the timeliness of this topic.

To begin with, how did condensers and motors come to go into the partnership known as the condenser-start motor?

Well, motor-driven appliances for the home, and to a lesser extent for the office, small shop and store, require a motor that must be quiet, have good operating characteristics, high starting torque, and must create no radio interference. And of all types of single-phase fractional horsepower motors, the capacitor or condenser-start motor best meets these specifications. In addition, it is also the simplest and most reliable of quality single-phase motors.

## Inexpensive Condensers Developed

Although the widespread use of the capacitor motor is less than half a decade old, the type itself is by no means new. But until quite recently motor designers have lacked the necessary high capacity condenser at a reasonable cost. To attain a capacity of several hundred microfarads by means of the paper dielectric condenser would be prohibitive, first because of a bulk several times that of the motor itself, and, second, because of a cost many times that of the motor. Fortunately, however, the development of inexpensive electro-

**Compact, inexpensive, simple motors the basis for the electric refrigerators and oil burners of today.**

lytic condensers for radio purposes has led to satisfactory industrial condensers combining high capacity with extreme compactness and low cost.

Although there are various circuit arrangements possible for the design of a capacitor motor, the three most generally followed are shown in the accompanying diagrams. In all three circuits "S" represents an automatic switch functioning when the motor armature attains a sufficiently high speed.

In Fig. 1A there is presented a capacitor motor in which the condenser is connected in series with the starting phase, so as to provide the starting torque. By using this condenser, starting torques of the order of several hundred per cent of the full load torque can be obtained. Not only has this type motor a high starting torque, but its design is very simple and its operation correspondingly reliable and economical.

In Fig. 1B is presented a motor employing two condensers in parallel. At starting, switch S is closed and the total capacity is sufficient to provide high starting torque. At high speed, however, condenser "C2" is automatically disconnected and the remaining condenser, "C1," has a value sufficient to make the motor run at nearly unity power factor

and to operate practically as a two-phase motor, the condenser functioning to convert the single-phase supply into a two-phase supply.

Instead of using two condensers, a single condenser in conjunction with an auto-transformer can be employed as indicated in Fig. 1C. At start the switch is in position 1, and the effective capacity for starting is equal to the capacity of "C" times the square of the turns ratio of the transformer. At running speed (or slightly lower) the switch "S" automatically connects to contact 2 and the effective capacity is thereby reduced to the proper value to give the high efficiency under running conditions.

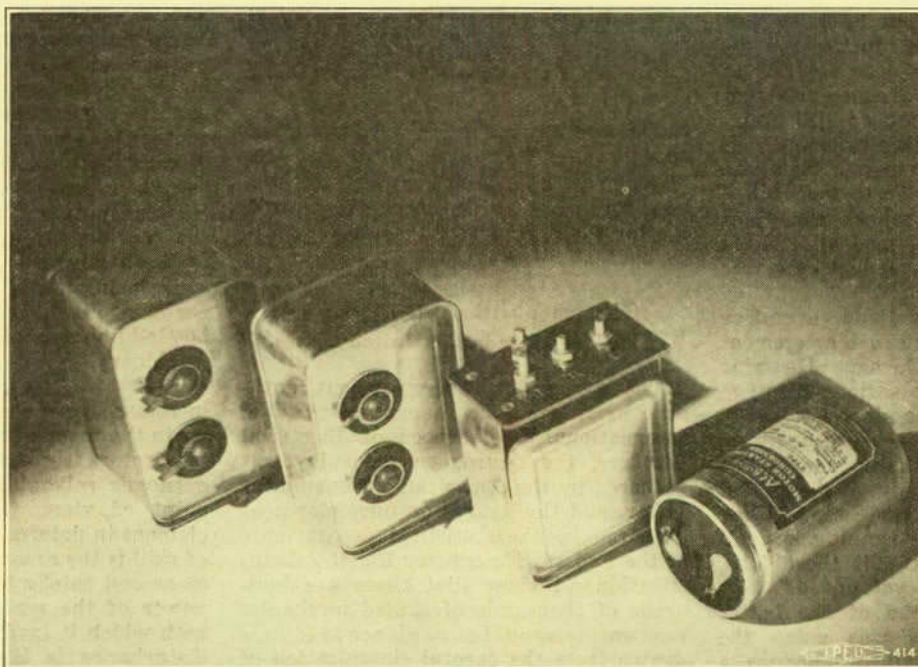
## Variations of Performance

The circuit of Fig. 1A makes use of a single electrolytic starting condenser which is in circuit only during the starting period. In the circuit Fig. 1B the condenser "C2" may be of an electrolytic type, while "C1," which is in circuit during running, must be an oil-filled, oil-impregnated condenser. The circuit in Fig. 1C uses a single oil-filled, oil-impregnated condenser. Where high starting torque is the important requisite, the arrangement shown in Fig. 1A may be followed; where the high starting torque combined with high efficiency under running conditions is required, the circuits of Figs. 1B and 1C must be followed.

From the foregoing one gathers that there are electrolytic condensers and oil condensers. The former are capable of high capacity values in small bulk and at low cost. However, they are designed for intermittent service such as the starting function. Such units are usually rated for a maximum of 20 starts per hour, with a maximum starting period of three seconds, on 25, 50 or 60 cycle supply, with a temperature rise no higher than 130 degrees F. The latter or oil condensers employ paper or condenser tissue dielectric soaked in oil and placed in a sealed container filled with oil, for continuous operation with a negligible temperature rise.

## Description of Condensers

The next point is to consider the condensers themselves. What are they like? What's inside them? How do they work?



Motor-starting condensers, showing two oil-filled condensers (at left) and two electrolytic condensers (at right).



The electrolytic condenser is favored for high capacity with minimum bulk and cost, in contrast with the paper dielectric type which is bulky, relatively costly, but suitable for continuous operation, as already stated. The bulk of the electrolytic type is roughly one-sixth that of the paper type, one-twelfth the weight, and about one-fifth the cost. Inasmuch as the usual motor-starting function calls for a capacity of 100 to 150 mfd., only the electrolytic type condenser is feasible.

The electrolytic condenser consists of two aluminum foils on which a very thin oxide film has been formed by electro-

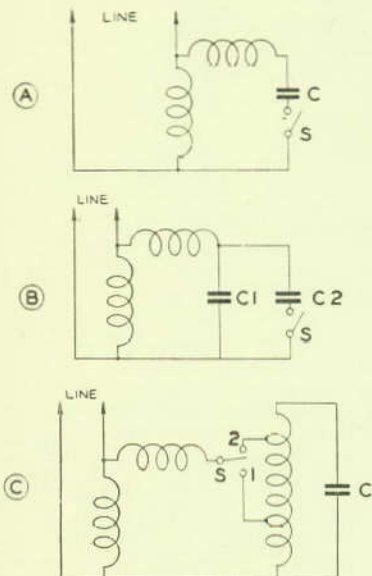


Fig. 1

Three typical circuit diagrams for the use of condensers in motor-starting function.

chemical means. Although the two aluminum foils, concentrically wound, are separated by strips of gauze soaked in the liquid electrolyte, the condenser action is really between aluminum foils and electrolyte, with the thin oxide film serving as the dielectric. The gauze strips serve as mechanical separators and as carriers for the electrolyte which in turn provides one of the "plates" of the condenser, the aluminum foils being the other "plates."

The veritable jelly-roll of aluminum foils and gauze, and sometimes absorbent paper or so-called condenser tissue as well, is now placed in an aluminum container and hermetically sealed so as to retain the necessary moisture, and to prevent any absorption of outside moisture. The aluminum container or "can" may be round or rectangular. The former usually has a hard rubber or composition top carrying the terminals. The rim of the can is spun over on to a rubber gasket and the top, forming a seepage-proof joint. In the case of the rectangular container, a double-rolled seam serves as the seepage-proof seal. Fig. 2 shows the details of both types.

After assembly, electrolytic condensers are aged by placing them across a voltage in excess of their rated peak voltage. They are then given a final test for leakage and capacity. A percentage of each

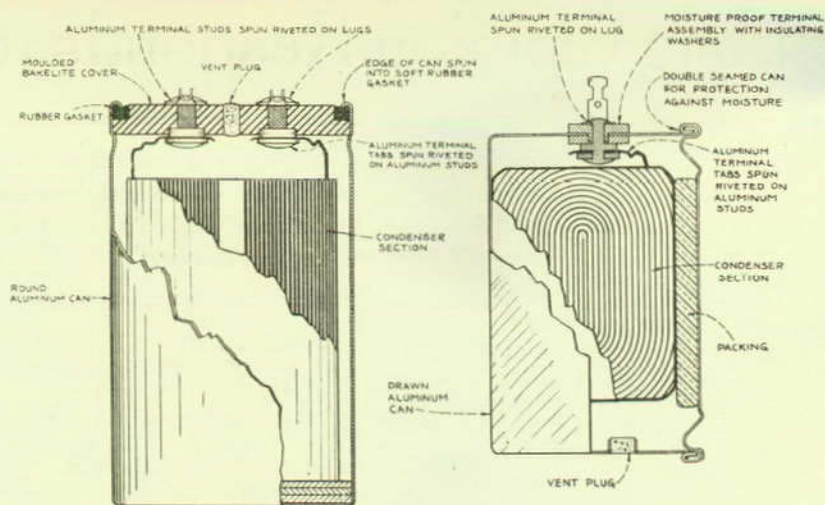


Fig. 2. Sectional diagrams of two types of electrolytic condensers. Round can type at left, rectangular roll-seamed can type at right.

day's production is tested by the electrical and chemical technicians to insure uniformity of production.

#### Oil Condensers Presented

So much for electrolytics. Oil condensers are a quite different proposition. Here the unit starts off with a section comprising two ribbons of very thin metal foil separated by a number of layers or thicknesses of condenser tissue or special paper. Instead of impregnation such as prevails among many condensers employed in radio receivers, these units are impregnated in oil, and then placed in a metal container filled with oil. Thus the section is constantly and completely immersed in an oil bath during its entire life. Since the oil used for impregnation and that used for filling are the same, no harm results from any flow of oil in or out of the section during the operation of the condenser. In fact, this is exactly what takes place during the operation of the condenser.

Whenever the temperature of the condenser rises, both the oil and the section expand. Somewhat greater pressures are set up within the can, and this serves to prevent voids and to maintain perfect contact between the oil and the foils of the condenser. As the condenser cools, the section contracts and the volume of oil within the section is reduced. From the standpoint of condenser life the important point is that under all conditions

of heating and cooling, uniformly good contact is maintained between the oil and the condenser foils. The effect of the oil bath surrounding the section, combined with hermetical sealing of the container, brings about this favorable condition.

In Fig. 3 we have a typical oil-filled condenser. The ingenious method of insulating the terminals and at the same time preventing seepage, will be noted. Also the double-rolled seams which are seepage-proof. The sections themselves are usually clamped so as to keep them under uniform pressure.

Truth to tell, the first electrolytic condensers produced for motor-starting purposes, several years ago, were by no means the perfected product of today. Consequently, electric refrigerators, oil burners, washing machines and other devices employing condenser-start motors are frequently in need of replacement condensers. If the motor fails to function properly, and since there is little or nothing else that can go wrong, the electrician can safely assume that a new condenser is needed.

Fortunately, exact duplicate replacements are now available. Condenser manufacturers have issued replacement catalogs containing the necessary data such as name of appliance or motor manufacturer, his part number for the condenser, the condenser manufacturer's part number, capacity, container dimensions.

(Continued on page 134)

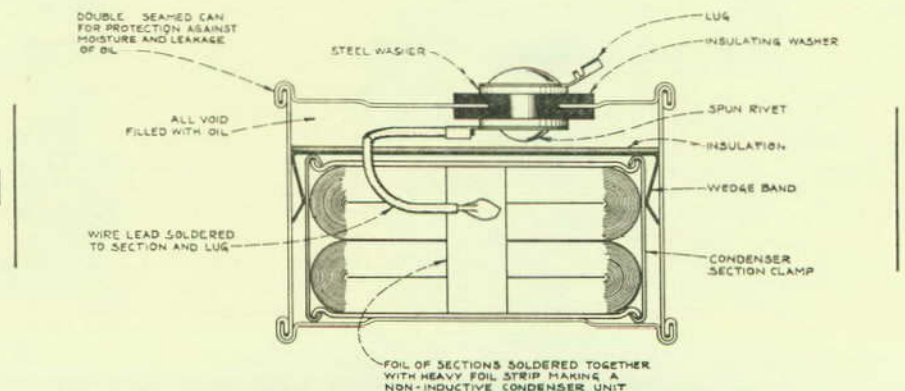


Fig. 3. Typical oil-filled condensers in roll-seamed rectangular can.



# Public Opinion Responds to Jersey Campaign

THE New Jersey electrical workers are making progress in their campaign for lower rates. Letters are pouring into the offices of the special committee on utility legislation appointed by the New Jersey Electrical Workers Association about three months ago. This office is at 190 Belmont Ave., Newark. The secretary is S. J. Cristiano; the chairman is R. A. Jahn. The International Office is giving full co-operation to the New Jersey group and Edward F. Kloter, vice president, is in constant touch with the situation.

Newspapers have responded vitally to the appeal made by the electrical workers. The campaign has been conducted on a calm judicial basis. The special committee has released publicity to the press which has contained vital figures and research data.

The electrical workers committee has shown the following:

1. Basic rates in New Jersey are higher than in any other state.
2. Even with the slight cut in rates made some months ago they are still higher than in New York or Pennsylvania.
3. There is a close correlation between high rates and low electric appliance sales.
4. Electric appliance sales in New Jersey lag as compared with sales in Pennsylvania and New York.
5. Electric appliance sales can have a close bearing upon employment.

The Electrical Workers Association has supported all these statements by facts drawn from disinterested sources.

The Paterson Press, a daily newspaper of Paterson, N. J., has begun a series of articles describing the set-up of the Public Service Corporation which controls electric service for the principal cities of the state. These stories point out the control that Thomas N. McCarter, who is head of the Public Service Corporation and chairman of the Edison Electric Institute, the dominant trade organization of the utilities, has over electric rates in New Jersey. All the papers in the state have reported the electrical workers' campaign with impartiality. The special committee has addressed letters to 125 business, labor and civic organizations inviting them to co-operate in the campaign and the response has been excellent.

In a recent release, the special committee said:

"The New Jersey State Electrical Workers Association has based its demand for lower electrical rates on high ground. It has shown that high rates create heavy lag in appliance sales, which lag in turn hampers business recovery and a pick-up in jobs.

"Utility spokesmen have been inclined to cast doubt upon this relationship between electric rates and appliance sales, but we do not believe the New Jersey public will doubt the experience of the Electric Farm and Home

**Under inspiration of New Jersey State Electrical Workers Association, state girds for battle with power trust.**

Authority, a federal corporation created to promote the sales of electric appliances.

"Take the record of appliance sales in Tupelo, Miss., a TVA outpost. As soon as Tupelo began to benefit by the lower rates offered by public power, power



EDWARD F. KLOTER,  
Vice president, International Brotherhood  
of Electrical Workers.

consumption jumped 267 per cent in a year's time.

"We now are able to state authoritatively the increase in refrigerator and electric range sales in Tupelo, according to figures gathered by the Electric Farm and Home Authority. In May, 1934, refrigerators in Tupelo were 26.7 per cent of saturation. In February, 1936, refrigerators in Tupelo are 72 per cent of saturation—a net increase of 45.3 per cent. Electric ranges in Tupelo in May, 1934, were 2 per cent of saturation. Today they are 19 per cent.

"This story is repeated in Athens, Ala., another city which is a beneficiary of low TVA rates. In June, 1934, refrigerators in Athens were 30.8 per cent of saturation. Today they are 71 per cent. Ranges in Athens in June, 1934, were 11.1 per cent, and today 31 per cent—truly significant increases.

"This is not all. The states of Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama, all beneficiaries of TVA power, have had tremendous increases in appliance sales—so

great, that they stand at the very top of the list for the United States.

## "Refrigerator Sales

	1933	1934	Percentage
Tennessee	9,793	26,822	175.9
Georgia	11,828	29,363	148.2
Alabama	9,785	16,914	72.9

"This remarkable record is all the more significant when the percentage of increase for the whole United States is only 35.96 per cent.

"What has been done in Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama can be done in New Jersey, if fair rates are promulgated."

There is evidence that there is a great rise of public opinion in the question of lower rates in New Jersey. The New Jersey State Electrical Workers Association addressed letters to 150 business, labor and civic organizations. The text of this letter was:

"Your organization is invited to co-operate with the New Jersey State Electrical Workers Association in its state-wide campaign for lower electrical rates. It is a well-known fact that business is seriously handicapped by high power rates, and that in every community where rates have been fairly reduced, business has been stimulated. The rapid expansion of Los Angeles, Calif., for example, is attributed to the low power rates in that community.

"The women of the state of New Jersey should particularly be interested in this campaign because there is close correlation between introduction of drudgery-eliminating appliances in the home and power costs. Appliance sales lag in New Jersey because electric rates are high.

"Employment, too, will be stimulated by a cut in electric rates. Where rates for electric power are fair, industrial plants use more, and more jobs come into existence. The table of correlation between power and jobs worked out by the Los Angeles Department of Power and Light is pertinent:

2 hp. of electric energy provides	4 jobs
10 hp. of electric energy provides	25 jobs
100 hp. of electric energy provides	250 jobs
1,800 hp. of electric energy provides	4,600 jobs

"Every community in New Jersey would benefit by a fair reduction in rates.

"The New Jersey State Electrical Workers Association has a special committee carrying on this campaign. It operates in 13 principal communities, including your community. After three months' study of the problem, this committee now places responsibility for high rates upon monopolistic control of the electric field by the New Jersey Public Service Corporation.

"The committee of the New Jersey State Electrical Workers Association has placed its campaign on a straight-for-

(Continued on page 132)



# Electrical Science Impinges Upon Mechanical

By CONTRACTOR

FROM the editorial comments and from the type of articles appearing in the JOURNAL it is evident that your aim is to assist in further convincing the public and the membership of the I. B. E. W. that union labor, as represented by your organization, can be "sold" on its merits.

Although those directly interested in the electrical contracting industry may feel that best results for all parties concerned can be secured through the employment of I. B. E. W. members, the entire situation would be improved if all owners, architects and engineers felt likewise. Frequently it is they who determine whether the work will be executed by union men or by others, and their decisions are likely to be based upon conclusions drawn from their own observations of the skill and performance of workmen with whom they have come in contact, and they may not be inclined to give consideration to such matters as years of apprenticeship, annual income or other factors which may bear upon the men's qualifications and the compensation due them. Also, the electrical worker may suffer a further disadvantage in that those who aim to judge his performance may admit they know but little regarding the connecting and operation of switches, controllers, transformers or other equipment but believe themselves well qualified to evaluate the workman's services in connection with the work in process. In other words, the electricians' standing with the men who award the contracts or who pay the bills is likely to be determined by their *mechanical* rather than *electrical* skill and knowledge.

## Judged By Mechanical Skill

It will not be questioned that the interests of the union-employing contractors and of their employees would be materially furthered by an increase in the demand for their services and that the actual amount of electrical work to be provided in many old and new buildings is affected by the evident efficiency of the organization then engaged or available. Therefore, why should not a special effort be made to impress the owners, architects and engineers along the lines in which they are most competent to judge?

Desirable results in this direction might be accomplished if in the schools now operated by many local unions and in the conducting of examining boards more attention were given to the matter of the men's knowledge of mechanics and machine shop practices. Special training might be encouraged in the intelligent selecting and handling of rules and scales; saws, drills and taps for various purposes and metals; and ropes and blocks; and a practical knowledge of the application of levers, gears and pulleys, along with the ability to

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**Employer of national dimensions draws upon his wide experience, and suggests that good electricians are also competent mechanics. A tip for electrical classes.**

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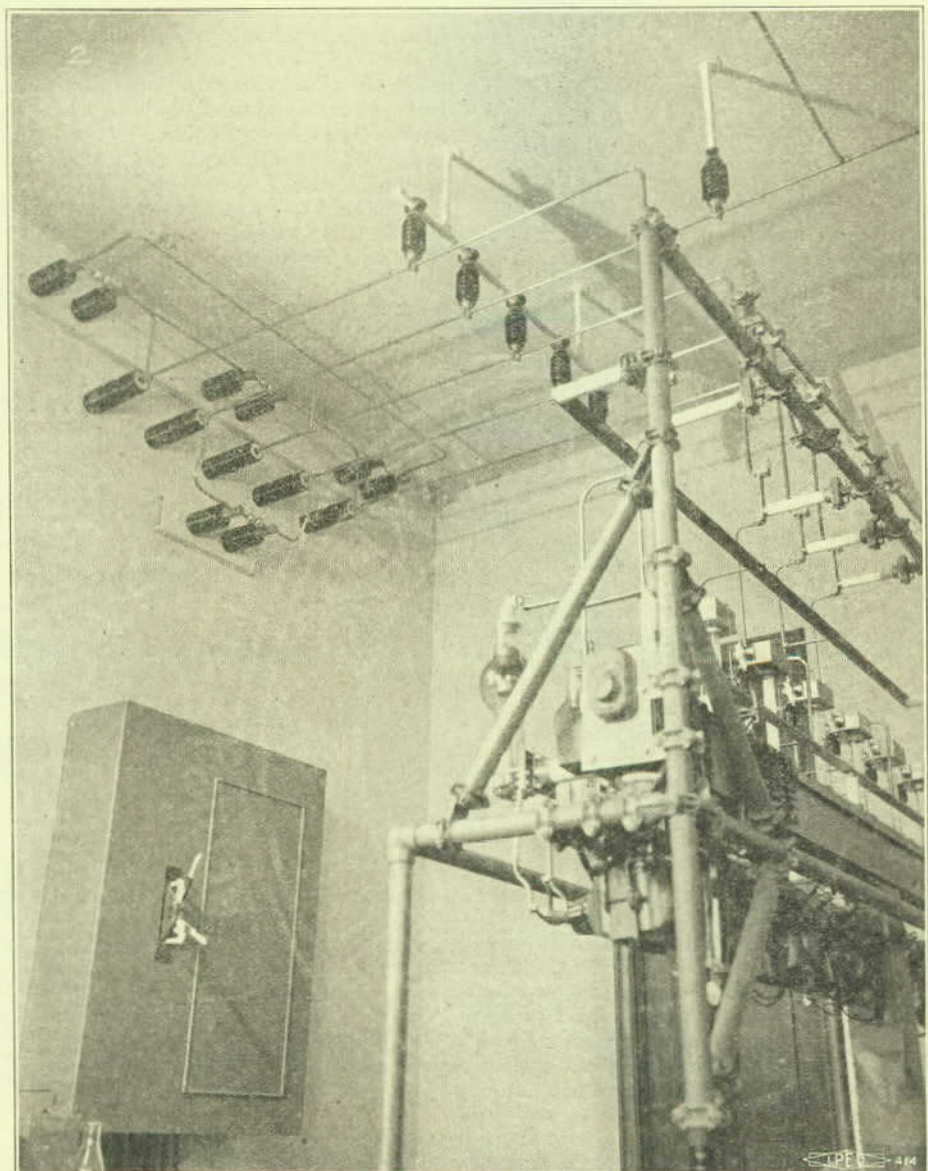
efficiently rig for hoisting and erecting equipment and materials, would serve to improve the standing of the men in the eyes of those observing the work in progress.

By many observers, the quality of a completed electrical construction job is determined by its general appearance as to alignment and accuracy of location of outlets, conduits and equipment, but

many do not realize the difficulties and problems that may have been overcome in determining exact locations and providing suitable supports when the building was only a rough mass of steel, forms, concrete and brick. The electrician should be given consideration due to the weather conditions he frequently faces and to the fact that, unlike the factory worker whose tools, materials and working operations are determined by a foreman always close at hand, he must get satisfactory results through his own decisions as to operations, tools, measurements and materials.

In connection with a building now being constructed the records show that about 20 electricians were employed for approximately eight months before the

(Continued on page 135)



The author believes that principles of mechanics as well as principles of electrical science should be part of the equipment of men capable of doing jobs like the above.



# Tracy Refutes Popular Housing Fallacies

By DAN W. TRACY, President International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

In the January 15 edition of "THE CONSUMER," published by the Consumers' Division, Department of Labor, appeared an article by Jesse T. Hadley, entitled "Hobbles on the Housing Program." Mr. Hadley, who is reputed to be speaking for consumers, finds nine reasons for high housing costs, as follows:

1. complicated craft organizations as applied to both laborers and employers,
2. perpetuation of archaic craft methods,
3. waste of material due to existing methods of fabrication at the site,
4. inappropriate use of materials and appliances,
5. lack of skill in planning both land and buildings,
6. high cost of materials and their distribution,
7. lack of reasonable assurance in market forecasting,
8. seasonal character of employment,
9. restrictive provisions of local building ordinances.

President Tracy has submitted an answer to Mr. Hadley to "THE CONSUMER." It is entitled "MR. HADLEY, MASS PRODUCTION AND BUILDING CRAFTS." President Tracy's answer is published herewith.

THE "disinterested" report, in behalf of the consumer on low-cost housing by Mr. Jesse T. Hadley in the January 15 number of THE CONSUMER, turned out to be a plea for extension of the profit system on a mass production basis into the low-cost housing field. How wage earners in the \$750 to \$1,200 per year income category can consider this a solution of their problem, from the consumer standpoint, I do not see.

Mr. Hadley, I am informed, made this report on housing for the NRA when Mr. Hadley was on the Consumers Advisory Board. If Mr. Hadley had spoken for consumers' co-operatives and farm co-operatives, or for an organization of consumers, he could not have possibly made this error.

We beg to point out the following facts to Mr. Hadley and to readers of THE CONSUMER:

## Government Aid Necessary

1. Low-cost houses—dwellings for the 75 per cent in the lower income brackets—must be erected by government aid. Every government in the western world, save the United States, has built adequate houses by subsidy, but Mr. Hadley does not appear to be aware of this solution to low-cost housing at all. Beauty, taste, and social values were considered by these governments. The profit system has never considered these values, hence the present era of slums.

2. The hope of new, would-be builders—the manufacturers of steel, asbestos, and electrical appliances—to produce low-cost houses like automobiles on a

**Objects to making craft functions political football. Finds pre-fabricated house propaganda behind so-called consumers' advocacy.**

mass production basis in factories is at present halted because prospective owners cannot finance the early stages of mass production when costs must be distributed over a few thousand buyers a year. Not stubborn craft organization, but this fact accounts for the present high price of pre-fabricated houses.

3. Would-be mass production builders consider only one consumer problem, price. Mr. Hadley also appears to consider only one consumer problem, price. Consumers of houses also have taste, it is to be inferred and no one likes to live in a home similar to everybody's else, any more than he prefers to wear the same style of hat. Social values, such as garden space, proper lighting and air, protection for children to play, must also be considered.

4. Would-be mass production builders do find wage rates and working standards set up by building crafts inconvenient barriers in the way of extending the profit system to the field of low-cost housing, but the consumer also should understand that the crafts are protecting him from exploitation.

5. The sub-contractor in the building field is not responsible for high costs.

He usually operates on a cost plus basis, but the general contractor who is usually a "front" for investment interests extracts often an exorbitant profit from the transaction. Mr. Hadley thinks the craft unions are responsible for sub-contractors, but the craft unions are not responsible for the general contractor.

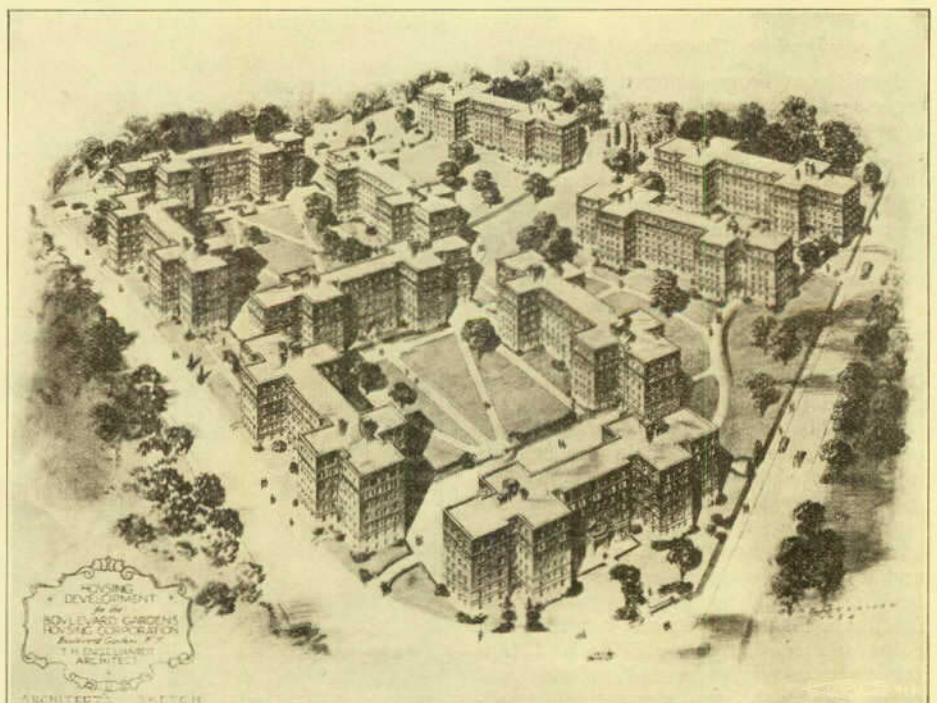
## Functions Determine Forms

6. The craft system, so-called, is based not upon whims but on functions—necessary functions. Merely to change the structure of unions would not change these functions, but mass production would do away with these functions, altogether, by substituting machine processes for skill. This would eliminate hundreds of thousands of jobs via the technological route and would guarantee large profits to a new general housing corporation formulated on lines like those of General Motors, but it would also cut down the number of prospective customers for homes.

7. Even so, there is little doubt that the \$750 to \$1,200 per year family could not own a pre-fabricated house, incapable as that family is of paying more than \$140 to \$300 per year for a home.

8. Isn't it time to call a halt to the mass production system as it is now operated, for it has failed to lower prices adequately, raise wages adequately, and give a satisfactory product? Mass production should operate on low prices, high wages, and should make only products where taste, style and social values are not so essential as in houses.

(Continued on page 135)



Modern housing in America. This shows technical possibilities in group development. Slums can be erased.



# Building Unions Press for Public Housing

**T**HE 19 building trades organizations have endorsed the following statement on public housing:

The time has come when the frequent pledges of the administration to develop a clear-cut, permanent national public housing program, designed to improve workers' living conditions, re-employ building workers at fair wages in productive work, and broaden and stabilize the potential market of the building industry, must be fulfilled.

The housing problem, as we see it, comes down to one simple question: *How can an adequate supply of decent new housing be built for families with annual incomes, of \$1,500, \$1,000, and less?* This group comprises from half to two-thirds of the population today, and even in 1929 the vast majority of skilled industrial workers earned less. Bad living conditions will continue, the residential building industry will remain a speculative "luxury trade," and an extreme housing shortage will be unavoidable—unless this question is answered in the near future.

*Private enterprise cannot do this job.* It has not done it in the past—and it is not doing it today, even with the aid of government-guaranteed mortgages.

*Local governments cannot do it alone.* Their financial condition is too weak, and their resources too restricted, to permit them to raise any of the necessary subsidies for low-rent housing. The establishment of local housing authorities capable of initiating, constructing and operating housing projects, even if the subsidies are provided by the federal government, cannot be accomplished all at once. Federal demonstrations of proper standards and efficient large-scale planning technique, will in most cases have to be done first.

*The federal government cannot provide real leadership or concrete achievements, as long as its housing agencies are on a temporary, emergency, work-relief basis.* There will be very few efficient local housing authorities until there is a permanent federal housing authority, equipped with the necessary powers and funds.

In view of these obvious facts, the administration should not delay in pushing forward an adequate legislative program for housing. This responsibility has already been assumed, although in a very small way, in the work of the PWA housing division and of suburban resettlement. And the responsibility for protecting the interests of owners and private financial agencies in middle-class and upper-class housing has been taken over by the federal government, in a very large way indeed. *The HOLC and the FHA have together about four billion dollars worth of commitments in this class of residential property.*

Is it too much to ask that the federal government should do something, even though not on such a Herculean scale, for the actual construction of much-needed

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**Historic policy by which to set up adequate low-cost housing program endorsed by 19 organizations.**

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dwellings for that half of our population who cannot hope for improved housing conditions by any other means?

The American Federation of Labor at its last convention unanimously adopted a resolution on a public housing program. It is now the duty of the American Federation of Labor, as the only organized

representatives not only of the building trades workers but also of millions of families in need of better homes, to present this program in more concrete terms. Following are recommendations for immediate federal legislation and a national housing policy and program:

## A National Public Housing Authority: Premises and General Policies

1. There must be a definite long-term program for the provision of an adequate supply of low-rent housing, available to families who cannot secure decent housing through ordinary private initiative.

2. This program should be entrusted

(Continued on page 135)



ONLY PUBLIC AGENCIES CAN COPE WITH THE MENACE OF THE SLUMS.



# Railroad Labor Board Endures Midst Flux

**I**N these days when the United States Supreme Court seems bent on undoing all the efforts of the New Deal to promote the general welfare, probably the single federal agency among all those recently established which stands out as the one most certain to pass the test of constitutionality and to endure is the National Mediation Board. This body was created in July, 1934, to lessen the likelihood of railroad strikes which might interrupt transportation and commerce. It does the same thing for railroad employees that Senator Wagner's National Labor Relations Board is doing for industrial workers. Both were established to protect the rights of the worker, to equalize his bargaining power with that of his employer.

Step by step, through Congress and the courts, the fundamental principles of railroad legislation have gradually been developed. The National Mediation Board is the result of more than 45 years of experience. It embodies those tenets proven by the past to be most effective toward preserving harmonious relationships between the carriers and their employees. Each underlying precept upon which it stands has been tested by the Supreme Court and found to be constitutionally safe.

The National Labor Relations Board was patterned after the National Mediation Board; yet it is unlikely that the railroad labor board will now be thrown out by the Supreme Court, while there appears to be a very strong possibility that the Labor Relations Board will follow the trail of the NRA and the AAA to a declaration of unconstitutionality.

The constitutional stumbling block over which these two labor boards, and most of the other New Deal agencies, must rise or fall rests on two clauses of the U. S. Constitution generally known as the "interstate commerce" clause and the "due process" clause. The Congress of the United States possesses only those powers expressly bestowed upon it by the Constitution. All other powers belong to the several states or to the people.

## Railroads Plainly Commerce

The "interstate commerce" clause states, "The Congress shall have the power \* \* \* to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states and with Indian tribes." The Supreme Court long ago interpreted this power as applying to interstate commerce, but not to commerce taking place entirely within the boundaries of a single state, nor to commodities which have once crossed state boundaries in commerce but since have "come to rest," and no longer directly affect interstate commerce.

This is the clause which proved to be the undoing of the NRA when the Supreme Court ruled in the now famous *Schechter* case that Congress had exceeded its constitutional powers by at-

## Fundamental principles of industrial relations tested over many years, defies feud of politics.

tempting under the National Industrial Recovery Act to regulate industries which only indirectly affect interstate commerce. This clause will also probably be the key to the constitutionality or unconstitutionality of the National Labor Relations Act, which authorizes the National Labor Relations Board.

The regulation of labor relations on the other hand, clearly affects interstate commerce, and in a very direct manner. It was the "due process" clause which for many years threatened to invalidate railroad labor legislation. This clause, the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution, recently proved to be an insurmountable hurdle to the Agricultural Adjustment Act and the Railroad Pension Act. It reads, "No person shall be \* \* \* deprived of life, liberty or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation."

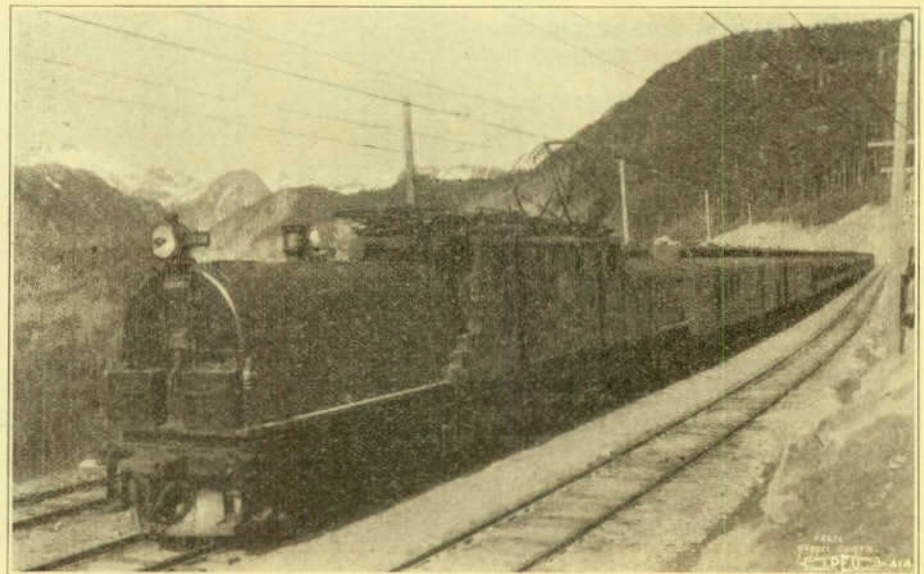
Among the liberty and property rights of which no person may be deprived is the right of freedom to make contracts—specifically, with regard to labor, the right of an employer to employ or refuse to employ whomever he chooses. In 1908 in the case of *Adair v. United States* (208 U. S. 161) the Supreme Court declared that it was not within the power of Congress to prohibit a railroad engaged in interstate commerce from discharging an employee simply because of his labor union affiliations. It was thus unconstitutional for Congress to prohibit an employer from requiring his employees to sign "yellow-dog contracts" or from otherwise discriminating against persons belonging to labor organizations.

## Rights of Workers Protected

Not until after the passage of the Railway Labor Act of 1926 (now in effect in an amended form), in which the right of employees to organize and to be represented by persons of their own free choosing was stated in quite positive terms, did labor find a way of legally getting past the *Adair* decision. But finally in the case of *Texas and New Orleans Railroad Co. v. Brotherhood of Railway Clerks* (281 U. S. 548), which tested the right of employees to select their own representatives without interference, the Supreme Court ruled that the *Adair* case did not void this privilege. In the decision Chief Justice Hughes said:

"Congress may facilitate the amicable settlement of disputes which threaten the service of necessary agencies of interstate commerce. \* \* \* The legality of collective action on the part of employees in order to safeguard their proper interests is not to be disputed. It has long been recognized that employees are entitled to organize for the purpose of securing the redress of grievances and to promote agreements with employers relating to rates of pay and conditions of work. \* \* \* Congress was not required to ignore this right of the employees but could safeguard it and seek to make their appropriate collective action an instrument of peace rather than of strife. Such collective action would be a mockery if representation were made futile by interference with freedom of choice. Thus the prohibition by Congress of interference with the selection of representatives for the purpose of negotiation and conference between employers and employees, instead of being an invasion of the constitutional right of either, was based on the recognition of the rights of both. The petitioners [the railroads] invoke the principle declared in *Adair v. United States*, 208 U. S. 161, and *Coppage v.*

(Continued on page 137)





# 7-Week Strike Won with Laughter

By ROBERT J. BROWN, L. U. No. 852

AS a reporter for the Chattanooga News, I wanted all the time the electricians' strike was going on to write it in the newspaper as pure comic opera. The situations would have drawn many guffaws from the readers. For there never has been quite just such a strike in the city, probably not in the south.

Other strikes have been punctuated by violence and stained by the most abject suffering—sometimes even by death, and that not so long ago. Always before there have been closed factories, and workers idle and without incomes. Some factories have even moved to other localities from Chattanooga.

Other strikes have been dramatic, often tragic. Not so this one. It was high comedy, from beginning to end. For reasons quite obvious to the electrical trade, the story could not be told in that way in newspapers without possible harm to the organization. This is its first telling.

Principal among the objects of the strike was the correction of a low wage evil. Other tradesmen in the vicinity boasted a wage scale of \$1 an hour. Electrical workers got only 90 cents. But no contract shop could afford to pay the additional dime, said the owners. Utter ruin would be the outcome.

One of the contract shops, however, happened to be owned by Jack Frost, an electrical worker himself, and a member of Local No. 175. Whether he merely wanted to play the martyr, or whether he saw a good profit in the idea, is beside the point. The fact is that he enthusiastically agreed to pay a dollar an hour, and to work practically all the strikers by turns.

The result: he did an enormous business during the seven weeks when pickets walked up and down in front of the other shops, the wolf was kept away from all workers' doors, and the other contractors tore their hair and wept bitter tears.

They imported small-town electricians from Cleveland, Tenn., and other surrounding localities, and attempted to operate after the first week or so of paralyzed inactivity. Strikers followed them on every job, and asked the property owners to please employ union labor. If they refused, that was the end of the argument. But the request campaign had its good results.

## Pickets Contribute Gaiety

Meanwhile, pickets with white umbrellas bearing the name of the unfair employers walked up and down the sidewalks in front of the shops.

Biggest of the trials and tribulations suffered by the shops holding out against the union was the feeling of resentment against them which the 80,000 or more people of Chattanooga and vicinity affected by the Chattanooga Trades and Labor Council naturally would feel.

**All Chattanooga watched amusedly while electricians fought the bosses for a 10-cent an hour increase. City happy at outcome.**

Another large number not in sympathy with the union had to remember the political and business effects of antagonizing the organization element.

Some of the tribulations—or acts in the comedy—were in the law enforce-

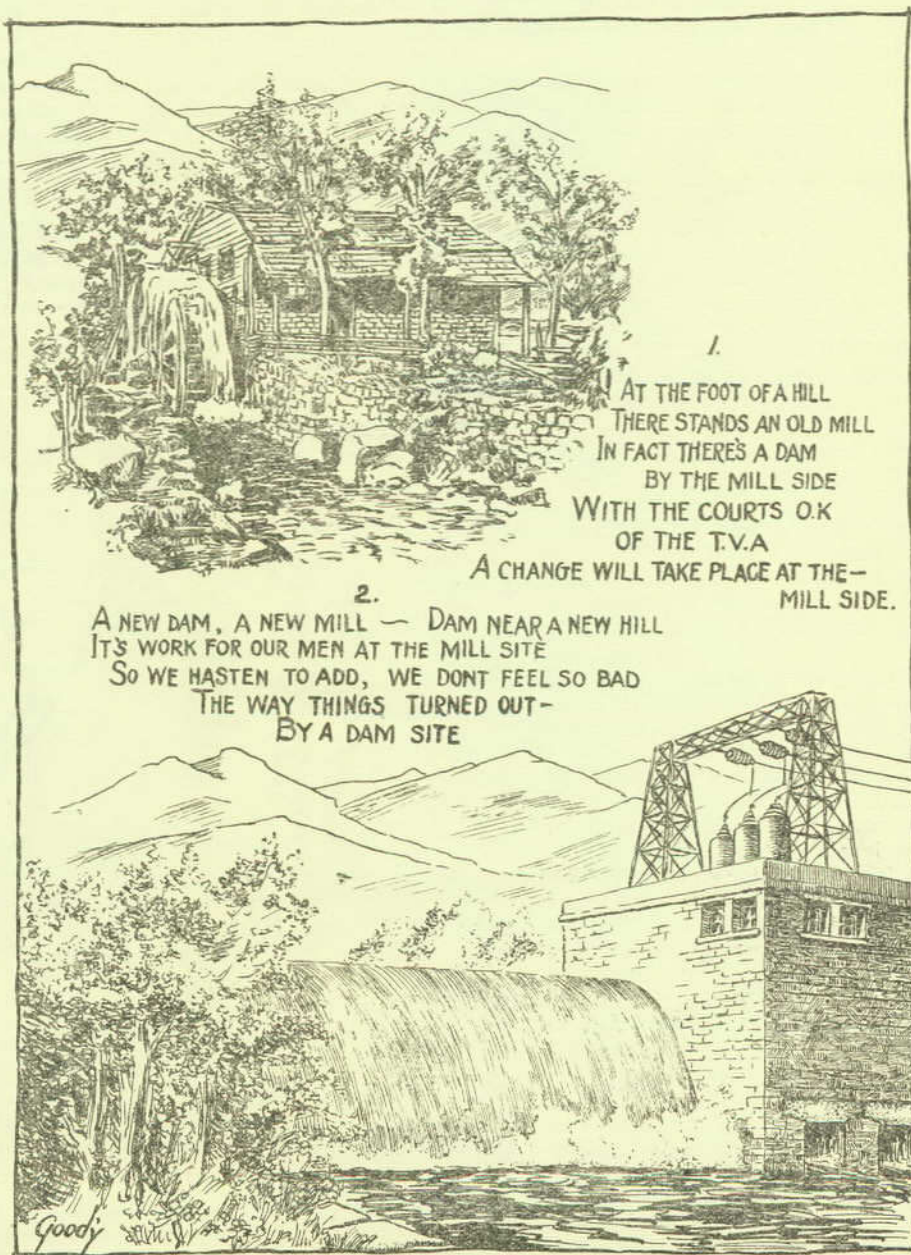
ment bodies of the city and county. They began one Thursday afternoon, when P. W. Curtis, owner of the Curtis Electric Company, phoned excitedly to the Hamilton County jail, for a police escort up historic Lookout Mountain to the new home under construction for Attorney Fred B. Frazier.

Curtis was one of the contractors attempting to operate with imported non-union men. One of them, with his helper, had gone to the Frazier home to plan the installation of the water heater, which the attorney had purchased "installed" from the Tennessee Electric Power Company.

(Continued on page 138)

## DAM DITTY

Drawn especially for Electrical Workers Journal by Harrie S. Goodwin





# When Wealth Lacks Social Vision

By P. J. KING, Machinists Union, Boston

**B**ACK in the closing years of that period known as the "Gay Nineties" a favorite subject for the Sunday newspaper supplement was "If you had a million?" Some prominent magnate would condescend to an interview that would unfold generous philanthropic intentions. Another interview would be had with "Billie the Bum" or some other character among the Bowery flophouses. Billie, who could not remember when he had a five-dollar bill, saw nothing but blurred visions of plenty of good food, a clean bed in some swell hotel, plenty of drink and the favoring smiles of a few merry women. This enlightening article would be followed by another one, "If you had only a dollar?" Again the magnate would outshine the bum in the use he would make of that dollar in again attaining affluence. The comparison left no doubt why one was a magnate and the other a bum.

In those days the author of best sellers for youth was Horatio Alger, Jr. His books had one unfailing subject, "From Rags to Riches"; a state supposedly inevitable to all youth, however poor, who worked hard and were respectful to their employer. The employer, tender-hearted and discerning, eventually rewarded such industry with partnership and the hand of his lovely daughter. And as in the fairy tales of old, one took it for granted that the attainment of wealth brought happiness ever after.

## Blind to All Values

A tragic example of one who followed the course of Alger's heroes and who set his goal directly for wealth is relentlessly unfolded in the book by George Britt, "Forty Years—Forty Millions," the career of Frank A. Munsey (Farrar & Rinehart, N. Y.). After reading this book one is left with a feeling of pity for a man who found himself blind to all the finer meaning of life when wealth was assured.

Munsey was born in Maine. At the age of 23 (1879), he went to Augusta to become manager of the local Western Union. It was a job that later influenced the course of his life. His work brought him contact with the local newspaper across the street, that awakened his desire to become a publisher.

In the year 1882 he went to New York with \$500 savings and a carpetbag stuffed with manuscripts, to start a magazine. It was a time when the United States was just recovering from the long panic of the 70's and was reorganizing itself into patterns to which long oncoming generations must conform. Rockefeller was on

## The career of Publisher Frank Munsey reveals sordid side of Alger-type of hero.

his way for the conquest of oil. Gompers was getting prominent in labor, to form the Federation four years later. Inventions which made the modern world were coming into use. Edison had just thrown into gear his first dynamo light current on a commercial scale.

## Do and Dare Times Begin

Munsey's first venture was the magazine, "Golden Argosy," with stories of the "do and dare" type, with brave boys fighting for fortune. After four years of hard work he was in debt for \$5,000. He had a temporary spurt of success and again fell back into debt, this time to the extent of \$100,000. Something must be done! He made a study of the magazine and saw a buying public of 250,000 persons. The whole population was 80,000,000, but they were not interested in magazines. The standard price of 25 and 35 cents was too high. There were millions of non-readers who were ripe for anyone who would interest them for reading. There was a virgin territory—why not a 10-cent magazine?

Here was his last chance. Munsey was desperate. He was aware that a magazine at 10 cents must have tremendous sales. It was started in 1894. At the end of the first year "Munsey's Magazine" reached a sale of 275,000 copies. By 1898 it had the biggest circulation of any magazine in the world. Munsey played the 10-cent buyer. It was a great industry.

Munsey, enamored with the great big world, strove to bring richness to isolated lives, to give a touch of glamor, success and importance. He adored articles about royalty, millionaires, Wall Street and famous personalities. And thousands of miles away, during its heyday, lines of people once a month stood at the post office or village news dealers, clutching dimes waiting, for it was Munsey day.

With a profit of a million dollars a year Munsey then launched into other enterprises which yielded large profits. His chain of Mohican Grocery Stores were richly profitable. He became surrounded with trophies of dollars by the millions, newspapers prospering and newspapers done to death, a hotel, a bank, skyscraper office buildings, estates and lands. He was entertained by crowned kings, was a knight of the French Legion of Honor.

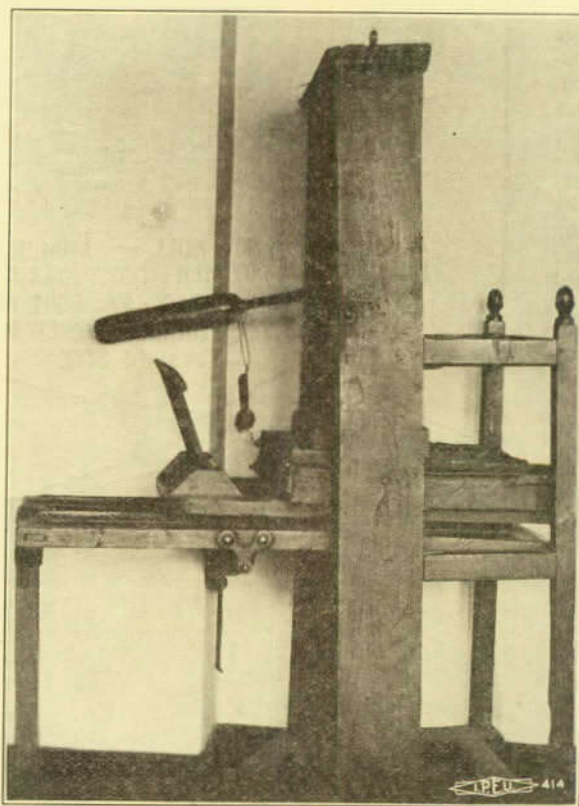
## Newspapers Just Dollar Mills

Then he started in to buy and publish newspapers. His newspapers were the toys of his fatuity, the victims of his hoary sedulous dabbling. He never became a newspaperman. He had cause to say, "No man ever did for me what he did for his former employer, and no newspaper ever did for me what it did before."

He never showed interest in news published in his papers. Newspapers died, or were consolidated out of existence, or handed on to someone else, with great rapidity. His business ability enabled him to buy the newspapers; his lack of imagination made them worthless after he got them. Newspaper writers ranked in Munsey's mind as grocery clerks. He was extraordinarily timorous of advertisers. "I will not quarrel with the source of my income," he admonished his writers.

Munsey had a conventional speech that he made in hiring young executives which had the effect of actually holding some to his service beyond the intended time. He would say: "I am not offering you a large sum of money. But you are young. You are ambitious and have your eye on the future. I am an old man. I am a bachelor without heirs. I think it may prove a great advantage to you young men who are

(Continued on page 134)



Printing press has shaped course of history since its invention. But when financiers began to mobilize modern presses in a game of speculation, sinister effects were recorded.



# New San Diego Fair 100 Per Cent Union

By M. L. RATCLIFF, L. U. No. 569

ONCE more the name of San Diego is in the bright lights literally and otherwise. Last year the California Pacific International Exposition held forth in the city, a city at the farthestmost point of the southwestern point of the United States, being located on the shores of the peaceful Pacific and only a few minutes ride by automobile from the Mexican border.

The exposition of 1935 was a great success and such a success and boon to the business all along the Pacific coast that the officials were practically forced into holding another exposition this year with the opening date scheduled for February 12, 1936.

To all of you Brothers, who had the opportunity to see the 1935 show, the beautiful lighting effects will be long remembered, but if I may borrow some words from one of our leading comics, "You ain't seen nothing yet," for this year, with all the revamping of the grounds and floral beds which are something to marvel at in the day time and the night lighting effects, it will cause you to stop and stare with open-mouthed admiration of the beauty that is on display.

Lighting engineers and critics from Chicago and elsewhere stated the exposition, from a point of beauty, far surpassed the fair in Chicago in 1934, and this year with the light load almost doubled, we are all wondering what sort of glasses we will need to properly view the splendors of the handiwork of man, as performed by members of Local Union No. 569, I. B. E. W.

Brother Frank D. Hauser, who was foreman in charge of the installation of all electrical work done directly for the exposition company for the 1935 fair, is now the electrical superintendent in charge of all of the changes that are being made. During the course of construction on the 1935 fair, members of Local No. 569, to the number of about 225, were augmented by our Brother members from Local Unions Nos. 40, 83, 711 and other local unions around Los Angeles, to the number of around 200. While it was known and run as an open-shop job, the members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers were in control to the extent of about 98 per cent of all electricians employed, and what men were not members were handled on permits with only 2 or 3 per cent who were not connected in some manner with Local No. 569.

This year the story is somewhat different. The members of the I. B. E. W. demonstrated that it pays to employ union men, and as the union crew of 100 per cent union men under Brother Hauser maintained the fair during 1935, it was only just and fair that we were called in and asked to man the fair construction work for this year's show, and an agreement has been reached whereby we are furnishing all men employed in the elec-

## Wonderland of magic lights fabricated by union electricians.

trification of the grounds for this year's beautiful show. We have a crew of about 100 members now working.

### Harmonious Industrial Relations

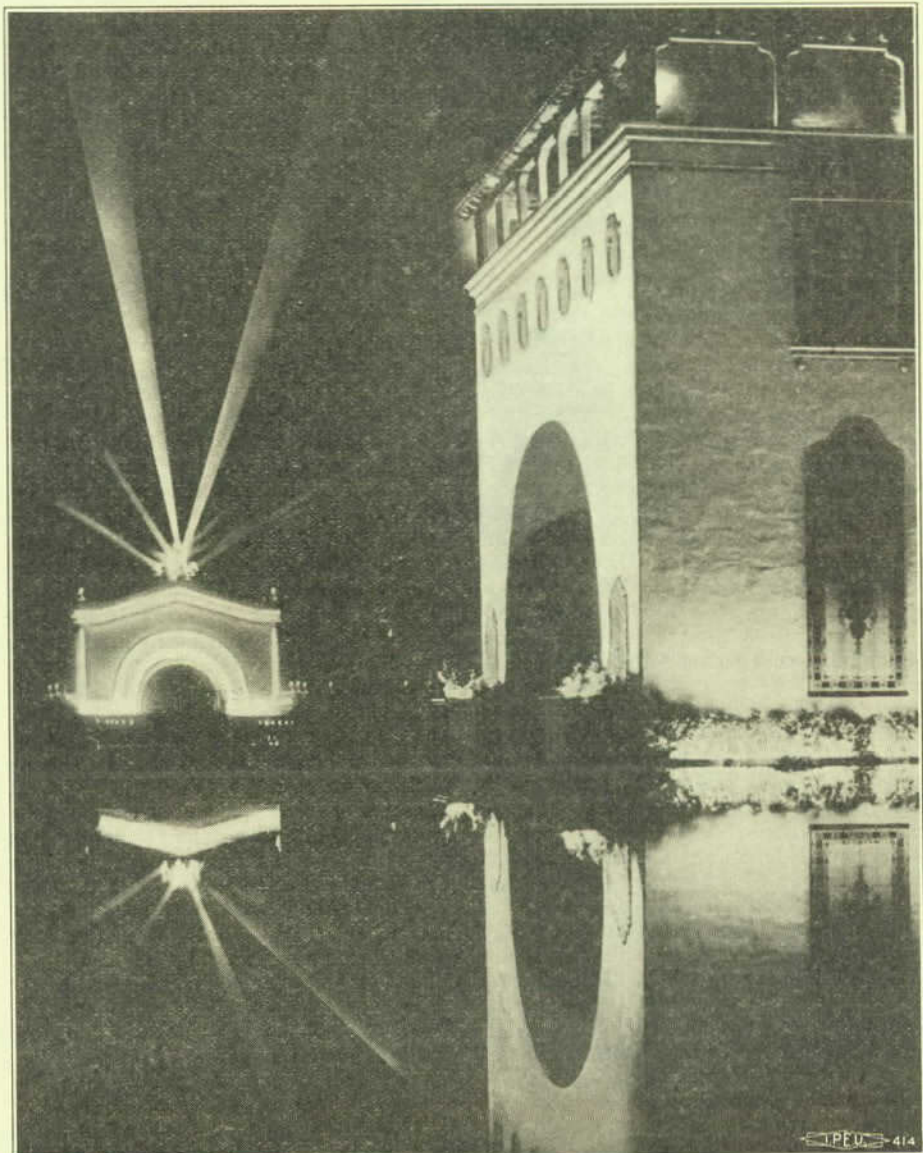
The relations with the exposition officials in respect to the electrical work have been, and I have every reason to believe will continue to be, very harmonious, and I trust that any of the Brothers who are fortunate enough to see the exposition this year will remember that it is another one of the many large undertakings of the electrical craftsmen that has been accomplished by men who car-

ried good union cards in the I. B. E. W.—and did not have to hide that fact under the much-talked-of "bushel."

There are many things of interest to see in San Diego that can be viewed in the same manner. The Consolidated Aircraft factory was built with union labor 100 per cent, Local Union No. 569 taking the lead with a crew of about 50 men working for the Capitol Electric Company, with Brother James R. ("Jim") Barrey, from up Seattle way, in charge of the job.

The Walker store remodeling job was another 100 per cent job, with about the same sized crew from the Capitol Electric Company, under the guidance of Brother G. D. Snyder as foreman and Brother E. B. Burchard ("Slim" for short), an old member of Local No. 6, as supervisor and designer.

(Continued on page 135)



Every great fair writes progress in the electric arts. San Diego has carried lighting to new altitudes of beauty.



# Labor in Chains Always Regimented

By DALE B. SIGLER, L. U. No. 125

## THANK GOD FOR COMMUNISTS

"If this be treason," Mr. Editor, "make the most of it."

I AM not a communist. I do not know exactly what the fundamental principles of communism are. I have never knowingly read through a piece of authentic communistic literature. But I have read a great deal in criticism of and propaganda against that doctrine. Notable among this have been several articles by Matthew Woll published in a popular five-cent weekly magazine. And it is a late recurrence of this evil that inspires the present outburst.

Parenthetically, I might remark that, if I can interpret his writing, the editor of the magazine referred to is hard smitten by the presidential bug. Also that he is an outspoken champion of that type of "rugged individualism" that always has and always will be inimical to the best interests of organized labor. He has, in his editorials, made some of the most vicious attacks upon labor unionism that I have ever read—vicious in that they were superficially friendly toward labor—but showing unmistakably, under the surface, the sentiment that labor unions are only right if and when controlled by big business. Truly "politics (or something) makes strange bedfellows."

As to the propriety of Mr. Woll's articles: The first of these appeared during the most serious phases of the longshoremen's strike here on the Pacific Coast. Perhaps you, Mr. Editor, and others at a distance did not realize that we had a situation here that was dangerous in the extreme. But when unarmed and defenseless neighbors are shot down, almost in your back yard, by high officers of your city's police force—when an automobile containing a United States senator and prominent local men of high standing, bound upon a mission of conciliation, is fired into with rifles in the hands of special police set to guard non-union workers—then you can realize the imminence of civil war. The radio was extensively used to justify the foregoing and similar actions in the desperate attempt to crush the strike. I heard the governors of states, the mayors of major cities, and fluent orators, whose voices were rented, broadcasting day after day in a campaign of propaganda and misinformation. And when I heard whole paragraphs quoted verbatim from Mr. Woll's articles and set forth in justification of the course which big business, backed by all the local political power, was using to crush the longshoremen, I was forced to the conclusion that the A. F. of L. should stifle some of its vices.

If there be communists within the ranks of organized labor, and I do not doubt that there are, and if they are as great a nuisance as they are represented, which I question, then the proper course

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**What is this thing Communism?  
What is the way to handle it?  
Member impatient of "Wolf,  
Wolf" cry.**

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for us to pursue is to quietly locate and expel such members, and to take all necessary precautions to prevent their weakening the structure of our unions.

## Ways and Ways and Ways

When the first wife and I have one of our occasional differences of opinion, as all happily wedded couples sometimes do, I generally hasten to control myself and shut my mouth, lest she be provoked to raise her voice, and the neighbors realize that there is inharmony in the home, and what it is all about. If you, Mr. Editor, upon arising from your night's repose, should find that, during your sleep you had provided a meal for one of those pestilent parasites that often makes one's couch their habitation (even in the best of families), and, if you should discover the marauder skillfully scouting for his place of concealment, you would doubtless endeavor to locate him upon one unyielding thumb nail while you pressed so firmly down upon him with the other as to effectively squelch any further forays upon your person. But, having done so, would you run to the window and shout to the gossip-loving world, "I killed a bed bug?" I doubt it—that is, if you were sleeping in your own home. Consider the activities of one, Robert I. Clayton, business manager of Local Union No. 125, I. B. E. W., and secretary-treasurer of the Portland, Oreg., Labor Temple Association (among other things). When, as has several times happened, Brother Clayton discovers a "red" distributing literature, or otherwise making his communistic presence known in our splendid (and soon to be debt free) Labor Temple, he takes the offender very firmly by the arm and provides him a personally conducted journey to the sidewalk; the while impressing upon the warped mentality the fact that communism is "per se" and "ex post facto" forbidden and "persona non grata" within the confines of the Labor Temple and its environs. But does the doughty "Bob" then continue on across the street to our equally imposing City Hall and announce to the assembled mayor and city council that he just found an emissary of the Soviets in the Labor Temple? You ask him, Mr. Editor, you are far enough away.

I think you get my point. Rattling the family skeleton out of the front door is a poor way to escape the reproach of its presence. And Matthew Woll should be intelligent enough to realize it.

And now, a dissertation on commun-

ism. My mind runs back down the years, Mr. Editor, and marshals a long array of "ists" and "isms" that have, each in its day, served as the "wolf, wolf" cry of warning that is continually raised when the placid public shows signs of awakening momentarily from its slumber to a realization that it is being pillaged and enslaved. There have been "royalists," "tories," "abolitionists," "socialists," "black republicans," "rebels," "anarchists," "populists," "wobblies," etc., etc. Regardless of the conditions climatically, economically and politically, there is always a plentiful supply of red herrings waiting to be dragged across the trail to mislead the dear public as to their real danger, and toll or scare them back to somnolent submission. At present we have two or three—the one acting as a counter irritant and super bugaboo to another.

The best comment upon communism which I ever heard was voiced by an old time lineman. Said he, "if communism is progress, you can't stop it. If it isn't, it will kill itself."

I challenge any alarmist to refute this statement. You can not take up communism, as it exists in Russia today, and set it down bodily in the United States of America "as is." The temper and intelligence of our masses, their educational status, their moral and religious principles would oppose and prevent it. The same is true of nazism, fascism, or Confucianism if you care to consider it. The "embattled farmers" of "these United Colonies," once demonstrated with thorough effectiveness that it couldn't be done, even with the benevolent monarchical system of Old England. We, as a race and nation (and I recognize, in a sense, the people of the U. S. A., as a distinct race, or amalgamation if you choose), have adopted as a national habit the suggestion of St. Paul: "Prove all things; hold fast to that which is good." We do not achieve it spontaneously, but we struggle on toward that goal.

That there is good in communism is self evident. Otherwise it would not have stood the terrific stress of the past 10 or 15 years. That there is also bad is generally admitted. Be it ours to watch the fires of refinement and, after the dross has burned out, adapt to our own use such of the good as we may desire. This applies alike to nazism and fascism also. I believe that the people who are making each of those experiments are actuated by a common cause—the desire to establish the perfect or ideal form of government.

## From Here to There

In the northwestern corner of the city of Portland, Oreg., stands a more or less extinct steam-electric generating plant, now operated as a substation and

(Continued on page 131)



# Casey's Chronicles of the Work World

By SHAPPIE

(Continued from February Issue)

*We spake of many a vanished scene,  
Of what we once had thought and said,  
Of what had been, and might have been,  
And who was changed, and who was dead.*

LONGFELLOW.

BILL SIMS and "Slim" Toban were willing to stay in their room and take it easy for one night, especially Bill. They had been setting poles all day with the heavy gang out in the country, and uneven ground in some places had made heavy lifting. To make matters worse an unexpected, cold, heavy rain had set in in the afternoon and soaked them all to the skin, so all hands were glad when quitting time came. Dropping off the big line truck as it passed their "House of Refuge" "Slim" and Bill made a bee line for the bath room and after a hot bath and a change of raiment, followed by a good dinner, they had finally eased themselves gracefully into their lounge chairs in front of a blazing fire in the open fireplace which their room possessed. Lighting their pipes they proceeded to puff out clouds of blue smoke which hovered in the air for a moment, as if reluctant to leave such cozy quarters, and then,

**Big Mrs. Pike tosses that tough hombre so hard his neck is sore for a week.**

caught in the draft of the fireplace, disappeared slowly up the chimney. A heavy wind had sprung up and was driving the rain in torrents against the window. "This is one night I'm willing to stay put," said "Slim." "How about you, Bill?" "I'd be glad to stay put myself," said Bill, "but," he added pessimistically, "it'll jus' be our darned luck if this wind don't short up some primary wires an' burn 'em down an' us two wizards get the call to go out and butt into the hot stuff."

"Why bring that up, William?" said "Slim" with an aggrieved air. "Yuh put me in mind of the feller, who said in his will, 'My worst troubles were the ones that never happened.' Ferget yer troubles, Bill. I want to hear the rest o' the story of you an' Terry."

"Well, I left off," said Bill "where me an' Terry had started to room together in our home town after we got back from our sleet storm trip. We spent the rest o' the winter without any more sleet

storms. For awhile we was pullin' slack. The weather was beastly cold, down below zero for days at a time, an' if yuh can get any colder job than bein' perched up on a pole fer five hours, why name it." "Well," said "Slim," "We might kick occasionally at the rain we get on the Pacific Coast, but, believe me, I'd a darned sight rather put up with a little mild rain once in awhile in the winter than to be froze stiff all winter an' baked to death in the summer like they are back east. I put in one season there an' I'll be awful peeved if I ever have to work back there again."

"That's the conclusion me an' Terry come to," said Bill "an' that's why we've been here so long. After we got through pullin' slack they started stringin' messenger an' runnin' up cable an' that wasn't so bad. Their standard cable clip in them days was two short, oval pieces o' wood which fitted around the cable, an' to hold these pieces together they used a short piece o' No. 12 iron wire an' took a turn around in a groove in the wooden pieces leavin' one end o' the wire long enough to loop aroun' the messenger an' slide along. What with some o' the fellers rollin' out the reels o' cable an' jackin' 'em up, an' others

(Continued on page 132)



This picture is of a Chicago Telephone Company's gang, all being members of L. U. No. 9, and the picture was taken at South Chicago in front of the Commercial Hotel in 1902. Bottom row: J. Johnson, S. Lawrence, T. Honan, W. McGrath, I. Bear, T. Eckbeck, E. Williams and C. M. Paulsen. Top row: S. Brennan, P. Fox, D. McKay, L. Harder, W. Shea, D. Lee, D. Collins and J. Cook. Sid Brennan, L. U. No. 9, and Eddie Williams, L. U. No. 134, have passed on. Don McKay and Teddy and Eckbeck of L. U. No. 134, are still with us, as is Chas. M. Paulsen, who is president of L. U. No. 134, and chairman of our Illinois executive council. William Shea and Denny Collins are of Chicago's finest (sergeants of police), and Wm. "Muggsie" McGrath is an officer of Local No. 9 and contributor of this picture.



# JOURNAL OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

Official Publication International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Devoted  
to the  
Cause



of  
Organized  
Labor

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**John L. Lewis's Contribution** John L. Lewis has made it impossible to disentangle his personality from his "cause." He would have it so, and some of his followers admit that the contest over union structure is not an academic question, but a "struggle for power." This being so, it is wise to examine Mr. Lewis's personal qualities as a basis for his claimed leadership.

Mr. Lewis is considered a good showman. He knows how to frame situations, and stage incidents so as to capture attention. Newspaper men like him, for he has color. He is said to be a great orator, that is, of the older school, with long periodic sentences, and impressive pauses. He is considered a fighter. He is a determined, ambitious, often individualistic person who likes to have his way, and is little used to working in groups.

Whether these qualities are qualities of a modern labor leader are doubtful. Showmanship may be an asset, and it may not, for staging stuff for newspapers is tricky conduct. Barnum could not have run the B. & O. railroad, and Earl Carroll could not operate the Actor's Equity. Union leadership, if it is sincere is more a job for an engineer than for an actor. Oratory is also a dubious virtue. There is no scientist, teacher, engineer, or statesman in the world today who depends on oratory. Cheap mob leaders like Hitler and Mussolini, who wish to stupefy intelligence with emotion, do. Determination and fighting ability are good leadership stuff. Finally, individualism, refusal to sink one's self in the group cause, personal ambition, inordinate craving for power and attention are non-union qualities, not only reprehensible, but positively dangerous.

Driven on by such a personal engine, Mr. Lewis has carried on now for nearly five months, in the role of chairman of a committee for industrial organization. To date his contribution to the labor movement, as a whole, has been:

1. Mr. Lewis has created an atmosphere and a situation in which temperate action and wise thought can not take place. The question of change in union policy, of revamping union structure, is not something for emotion, passion and riot, but for investigation and engineering statesmanship. Mr. Lewis has wise-cracked, has made theatrical gestures, has "tried his case in the newspapers," but he has not contributed one practical idea to the important question, or met one single opposing argument fully and dispassionately. He has subtly undermined union leadership. His treatment of the president of the American Federation of Labor, his life-long friend, before the miners' convention was brutal and unfair, and unworthy of union principles. In short, Mr. Lewis has made it impossible to do anything about the very question Mr. Lewis pretends he is most interested in, except to do battle with Mr. Lewis.

2. Mr. Lewis has wilfully or otherwise created the impression that the American Federation of Labor is against industrial unionism. He pretends—like all emotionalists—that the labor movement is divided between black and white, between good and bad, between craft unionists and industrial unionists, between anti-Lewisites and pro-Lewisites. This is a misrepresentation. There are few pure craft organizations in the Federation. There are degrees and shades of union structure. The Federation is a growth, not a manufactured organization. Industrial unions exist in the Federation, are well-treated, and thrive, and so do crafts, and so do unions which are neither craft nor industrial. The San Francisco A. F. of L. convention provided amply for unorganized mass production industries, but to Mr. Lewis, who apparently believes the best way to solve union problems is to get front-page stories in the capitalistic press, to him the San Francisco mandate has no meaning.

3. Mr. Lewis has sought—deliberately or otherwise—to create the impression that there is something magical about union structure. The union movement is held back by the fact that the union structure is generally wrong. All that is needed to organize steel, automobiles and other resisting and hostile industries is to decree industrial unions for those industries. Of course, this is childish. If there were anything magical about union structure, the textile industry would be 100 per cent organized, which it is far from being, and coal would be also, which it is far from being. Mr. Lewis would not have had to depend on government aid for his organization, and to change his waning union into an arrogant one. In Great Britain, where unions in all degrees of development strongly resemble unions in the United States in all degrees of devel-



opment, organization has gone much farther, not by magic of union structure, but because employer opposition has not been so great. It is a commonplace that the most powerful and unscrupulous employers in the world ply their hostility to unions in the United States. These United States employers prefer industrial unions—so they aver—but not surely because they want to see the union movement strong.

5. Mr. Lewis has treated unions—and he should know better—as inanimate entities to be picked up, and set down at will—his will. Unions are not so much organizations as organisms—systems of growth—resting upon the uncertain element of human psychology. They are not to be pushed round like corporation stock, or dummy holding companies. They are men, men in groups, which are fickle often, as well as heroic, and who usually prefer association of men of their own kind. They must have bonds to hold them together, and in this country, where working class consciousness is weak, craft has been a strong bond. Mr. Lewis believes that craft consciousness is outmoded, and that class consciousness can be substituted. This is yet to be proved.

6. Mr. Lewis has—and this is his major misdemeanor—broken the labor front. At a crucial hour, when employers are organized as they have never been before, and when there is a constant threat of fascism, Mr. Lewis has, in effect, divided the labor movement. It is true that he has made this division—as all self-righteous emotionalists do—in the name of greater service—but the fact remains the movement is divided. This is no hour for division. This is the hour for all labor, progressive and liberal men to stand up and drive back fascism and reaction. In every country in the world where fascism has triumphed, the labor movement has been divided—seriously divided—by persons who declared that abstract ideals were more important than practical co-operation. Mr. Lewis believes—so he says—that the type of union structure is more important than the labor front, but if, and when, fascism triumphs, he will have a hard time to explain that subtlety to broken unionists.

This, then, is Mr. Lewis's real contribution to the life of labor since October, 1935. This, of course, ignores the columns of glowing newspaper publicity in capitalistic newspapers Mr. Lewis has received, and his grandiloquent and theatrical gestures. This is not an accomplishment for which to be proud, but we do not expect Mr. Lewis to change his tactics. He is a strong, heady, inordinately ambitious man, primitive and not reflective by nature, and he will not change.

But Mr. Lewis is not going to decide the questions posed by Mr. Lewis. The workers of America are going to decide. But they ought to see what they are going to decide.

In the main Mr. Lewis has posed two questions to American labor:

(1) *What kind of leader do American workers want?* An orator, actor, fighter and politician who ignores modern methods of union management, and prefers instinctive to rational practices? Or a calm, intelligent, modern type, who despises cheap mob tactics, and seeks to meet the highly technical type of industrialism we have with reason, technique and honesty?

(2) *Does labor want a more centralized form of union government?* Democracy is unwieldy, but it is also stable, and it resists reaction. A more centralized form—we will not call it an autocracy, because we do not believe that even Mr. Lewis's ambition would carry him this far—might make for more mobility of action, but what effect would labor's desertion of democratic ideals, have upon the nation in general? Would it hasten or not the coming of fascism?

**TVA Decision** At first glance it looks as though the severe criticism of the United States Supreme Court which followed the AAA decision was pretty superficial after all. With the TVA decision the struggle to obtain redress of court dominance of United States policy appears to have withered. However, the situation remains the same. The court is still dominant; it still shapes United States policies, which function should reside in Congress. We venture to predict that there will soon be another court decision that will set the critics rolling in the aisles in agony and initiate a new movement to bring back government "of the people, by the people, for the people."

**El Paso** For six months the El Paso Electric Company has flagrantly violated the National Labor Relations law. Through the tolerance of a federal judge it has held off the law enforcing agency, namely, the National Labor Relations Board, from penalizing it for its law breaking. As a result of this policy a strike occurred in El Paso. The company now tries in its usual pattern of conduct to lay the cause of this strike at the door of its employees. There seems to be no answer to this impasse, except the answer now given by the El Paso community itself—the formation of an El Paso Public Ownership League looking toward the establishment of a municipal ownership plant in El Paso. The El Paso people, good citizens of a good community, are sick and tired of exploitation by Delaware, New York and Boston capitalists.





# WOMAN'S WORK



## CONTESTS WIN CHILDREN TO UNION IDEALS

By SALLY LUNN

**"O**RGANIZE 'EM YOUNG," seems to be the idea in St. Paul, Minn., where they are doing a grand job of selling union standards to the youngsters through a series of shows and contests sponsored by the Trades and Labor Assembly. Accounts published in the St. Paul labor paper, the Minnesota Union Advocate, indicate a really excellent knowledge of child psychology on the part of those who planned the activities. They have put the union man's children, and the child from the home where union made products are most used, in a very enviable position among their comrades.

There'll be many a boy or girl strutting around the school playgrounds of St. Paul saying, "My daddy is a union man, and we use only union label bread and milk at our house," who wouldn't have given the matter a thought a few months ago, and would hardly have learned to be proud of union loyalty without the enthusiasm created by the contests.

A few months ago the Trades and Labor Assembly started by giving free moving picture shows on Saturday at the Labor Temple. Newsreels, comedies of the kind children enjoy. And then some one would give a short talk about some phase of union activity. After the ground had been prepared, and the children had some understanding of organized labor's meaning, the contests began.

The shows and contests are open to all the children of St. Paul. If they sell the idea to children of non-union parents, so much the better. One of the first was a label hunt. The kids knew it was coming. They scurried around collecting union labels from bread, cigarettes, tobacco cans, cigar boxes, hats, clothing, printed matter—anywhere they could find a union label. They implored their mothers to use union made bread and cakes, to buy other union made products, so they could get the labels. It must have given a mighty boost to the sale of union made bakery products, in particular. Appropriately enough the prizes were big, luscious cakes, donated by the Bakers local. Besides providing the prizes for the general label contest, the bakers have been giving cake prizes for the past four months to the children bringing in the greatest number of labels from union made bread. It

probably resulted in many an ardent sales campaign carried on among relatives and neighbors by youthful fans determined to get more labels.

In January an essay contest was announced by William Brennan, chairman of the committee sponsoring the shows. The contest, Mr. Brennan said, was for the purpose of determining how much the children had learned from the union talks given at the shows.

"Our little guests at these shows have been told that organized labor is for a child labor amendment to the Constitution," he said, "that labor stands for higher wages, shorter hours, unemployment insurance, old age pensions, better public schools, free textbooks, honesty in government, and decency in industry." The subject chosen for the essay was, "Why my Dad Belongs to a Union."

What this means, translated into the thought of a 10-year-old boy, was accurately charted by Frank Shear, author of the winning essay. It's worth examining:

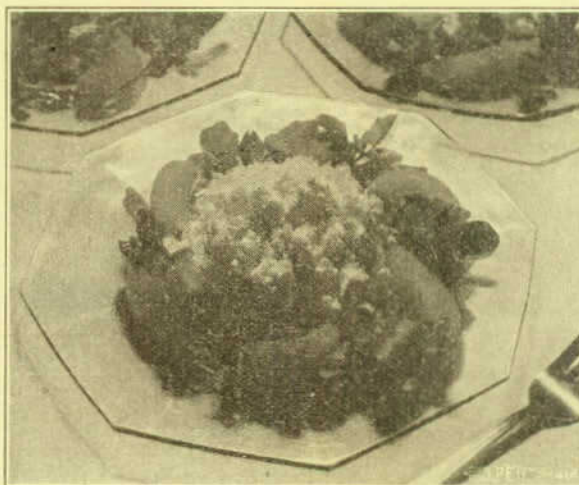
"Why my father should join a union is because it helps him to get fair play, shorter working hours, and better pay. The shorter hours give him more time to be with me. The better pay enables him to give me the right kind of food, clothing and shelter, not forgetting a little for playthings, etc., and by so doing giving me the right start in life to become a healthy, happy, useful citizen." Three prizes were awarded for the essays.

Next to sponsor contests was the Milk Drivers' Union. St. Paul has eight organized creameries whose union drivers are always boosting the wares they deliver. Their first move was to offer three cash prizes for the children bringing in the greatest number of bottle caps from union milk companies' milk and cream bottles. The only catch was that if a single non-union milk bottle cap appeared in the collection the contestant was disqualified. That made the kids strictly aware which were the union creameries and which were not. Mothers no doubt received a good deal of information about it, too, from their eager offspring. Milk bottle caps came in by the pound. The Milk Wagon Drivers felt so pleased about it that they sponsored another contest.

This one was for the three best examples of handcraft built mainly from union milk and cream bottle caps. The business representative of the drivers suggested such articles as bird houses, waste baskets, flower pots, magazine holders, work baskets, hat racks, lamps and lamp shades. The bottle caps could be fastened together with tacks, glue, nails, brads, cellophane or anything else the kids could think of, he said, but the articles must be made mainly from milk and cream caps, and a single non-union cap in the ensemble would disqualify the contestant as before. There was to be a big exhibit of the products of imagination and bottle caps at the movie show, March 7, at which time the prizes were to be awarded.

I've been watching the accounts of these contests through the Minnesota Union Advocate, and I'll be watching for the names of the winners after March 7, very much interested to know what they succeeded in making from the bottle caps. Other cities should take up

(Continued on page 134)



Courtesy U. S. Bureau of Home Economics.

### Cottage Cheese Salad With Peaches

By SALLY LUNN

An attractive luncheon salad for this time of year that is easy to prepare and yet contains many valuable food elements, is this combination of canned peaches, watercress and cottage cheese. If you cannot obtain watercress, well-crisped lettuce may be substituted. Cottage cheese, you know, when cream is added to it, contains all the food elements of whole milk, so necessary in the diet. Early spring finds everyone with an appetite and a need for raw greens. And what a charming color picture it makes, with the golden slices of peach placed in flower-petal fashion!



## Women's Auxiliary

### AUXILIARY LIST GROWS

Women's auxiliaries to 16 local unions have been reported to date. Auxiliaries not on this list are requested to report their organization to the Woman's Work section of the Journal.

Local Unions No. 2, St. Louis; 60, San Antonio, Texas; 66, Houston, Texas; 68, Denver, Colo.; 83, Los Angeles; 108, Tampa, Fla.; 113, Colorado Springs; 177, Jacksonville, Fla.; 292, Minneapolis; 304, Topeka, Kans.; 349, Miami, Fla.; 444, Ponca City, Okla.; 508, Savannah, Ga.; 574, Bremerton, Wash.; 583 and 585, El Paso, Texas.

### WOMEN'S AUXILIARY L. U. NO. 60, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Editor:

Since our initial meeting we have had several interesting meetings and if we have accomplished nothing else, we have become better acquainted with each other.

We had a very successful Christmas party for the members of Local No. 60 and their families, with about 150 present. We now have about 32 paid-up members, most of them interested and active.

We helped in the recent lock-out in one of the local radio stations by phoning the station and their advertisers, and were told that our activity helped to bring about a settlement of the strike.

We are enclosing copies of letters which we sent to the dime stores protesting the sale of lamps and Christmas tree ornaments made in Japan, also one to a local paper asking them not to hold their cooking school in a hotel notoriously unfair to union labor.

The following letter was mailed to Kress, Woolworth, McLellans, Grand, Silver, and Grant's stores:

"At a meeting held December 7, 1935, by the Women's Auxiliary, Local No. 60, I. B. E. W., it was voted to send a letter to all dime stores, in protest of the fact that almost all your toys, Christmas tree ornaments, and lights, are made in Japan.

"We feel that to place on sale only things made in the U. S. A. is your patriotic duty, especially now when so many men need work.

"We hold nothing against the Japanese as a nation, but we do not believe in the standard of living and conditions under which these articles are made, and we hope that in the future, in doing your buying, that your company will consider this protest. Please send a copy of this letter to your head office."

Feeling that the public needs educating where electrical work is concerned, we are planning a letter to be sent to all Parent-Teacher Associations before Fire Prevention Week.

In order to carry on all the things we have in mind, we need money, so we are raffling off a quilt, from which we hope to realize \$50.

We are going to have speakers to speak on some labor subject at each meeting.

MRS. D. R. KRISCH,  
1648 W. Poplar St. Secretary.

### WOMEN'S AUXILIARY L. U. NO. 83, LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

Editor:

Being a Southerner myself, the organizing of auxiliaries in the South has been very interesting to me, and I want Mrs. H. L. Tolle and Mrs. F. C. Valentine to know that we appreciate their efforts and wish them lots of success. I am looking forward to seeing Local No. 59, Dallas, Texas, organized. Wouldn't it be nice to see that Mrs. A. C. Woerner, Mrs. L. B. Irvin and Mrs. E. Telcamp have started an auxiliary?

Then there are Mrs. John Davis, Shreveport, La., Local No. 194; Mrs. G. C. Gadbois, 1532 North Boston St., Tulsa, Okla., Local No. 584, and Mrs. T. E. Todd, from Local No. 130, New Orleans, La., who could surely do something toward organizing.

Here is our new board for the coming year: President, Mrs. Jewell Mathis; secretary, Mrs. Evelyn Stanley; treasurer, Mrs. Elsa Marquette; program, Mrs. Myrtle Forington; prizes, Mrs. Margaret Kimes; publicity, Mrs. Aline Hinkle; by-laws, Mrs. Clara Barnes, with Mrs. Charles Kiele as assistant; ways and means, Mrs. Louis Holderman, with Mrs. Elsa Marquette as assistant; sick, Mrs. L. E. Almstead; membership, Mrs. Grace Maxwell, with Mrs. Charlotte Austin as assistant.

Three of our committees, the ways and means, membership, and by-laws, are working on three very important matters that will be of great interest to our members, and just as soon as they develop a definite plan, I am sure that we shall see some gratifying results. It is, therefore, my wish that anyone having a suggestion which has as its purpose the welfare of the auxiliary or the improvement of our meetings, communicate with me as soon as possible.

As president of Local No. 83 auxiliary, I realize that there are others as wise or wiser than myself, and by surrounding myself with their intelligence and help, my decision will often reflect a broad, sympathetic understanding of my sister workers and their everyday problems.

Let all of us take a more active part this year, doing everything within our power to lift trade union auxiliaries to the level to which they belong!

The auxiliary, with the co-operation of the local, had a most wonderful Christmas party, December 22. More than 100 children received lovely gifts of toys, candy, nuts, fruit and games. We had a lovely program with Ed Swingle as master of ceremonies and George Ellicott as Santa Claus.

The Harmony Eight, singers from Radio Station KFAC, sang several fine numbers. The Smith-Sennett School of Dancing presented several lovely dancers. There were flower girls, ushers, little elves as Santa Claus' helpers, and check girls, all in costume. Many valuable prizes were given away, including a candy house made and donated by the Musicians' Coffee Shop.

Mrs. Elsa Marquette entertained the auxiliary with a Valentine pot luck luncheon, February 14, at her home. Everyone enjoyed it so much that a motion was made to have some kind of a party once a month.

We were very sorry to lose one of our most active members, Mrs. Harry Underwood. Brother Underwood transferred to Local No. 18, so we are looking forward to seeing an auxiliary organized in Local No. 18 soon. We will be glad to help in any way we can.

May 1936 bring a revival of electrical workers' auxiliaries with strength and unity of purpose as their object, and only by interesting others can this be done.

MRS. JEWELL MATHIS,  
President.

### WOMEN'S AUXILIARY L. U. NO. 108, TAMPA, FLA.

Editor:

A women's auxiliary was organized here December 19, 1935. Twelve charter members registered and the following officers were elected: President, Mrs. C. E. Beck; vice president, Mrs. H. E. Kilmer; recording secretary, Miss Marion Gunn; financial secretary and treasurer, Mrs. Frank Gaylord; conductress, Mrs. J. R. Gunn; sentinel, Mrs. A. C. Hamm. A committee of three were appointed by the president to solicit union labels and union workmanship. Those on this committee are: Mrs. Tommie Payne, Mrs. W. L. Lightsey and Mrs. J. R. Gunn.

Our regular meeting night is the first Thursday of each month. Officers will be installed at our next meeting.

MISS MARION GUNN,  
Recording Secretary.

### WOMEN'S AUXILIARY L. U. NO. 444, PONCA CITY, OKLA.

Editor:

Our auxiliary was one year old January 9, and as our regular business meeting was January 8, we celebrated our anniversary with a covered dish luncheon at the home of our president, Mrs. F. R. Overman.

After luncheon we held our business meeting and election of officers. Officers were elected as follows: President, Mrs. F. R. Overman; vice president, Mrs. W. H. Arnold; secretary, Mrs. C. A. Brigham; treasurer, Mrs. V. P. Canfield.

An invitation from the Central Labor Union had been issued us to send delegates to their meetings and these delegates were appointed. I'm sure that it will benefit our organization to have our representatives at those meetings. The central labor body has been doing some good work in Ponca City and I am glad to report that in the last few months the retail clerks, beauty operators, and cleaners and pressers have organized.

It is gratifying to note so many auxiliaries forming over the country and if we can be of assistance to any auxiliaries forming in this vicinity we should be glad to assist them.

We have a prepared educational talk at each of our business meetings, and are constantly seeking new ways to promote the cause of organized labor. Each of our members gets information whenever possible regarding union-made merchandise and passes it on to others at our meetings. I hope that in the near future the manufacturers of union-made merchandise find that the union label is an important factor in selling their merchandise and all such merchandise will be so labeled.

ELLA BINGHAM.

### CLOSING PRAYER

This little prayer, used to close the meetings of the women's auxiliary to L. U. S. No. 177 and No. 862, Jacksonville, Fla., is so fine and sincere that we are passing it on to other auxiliaries:

Keep us, oh God, from pettiness; let us be larger in thought, in word and in deed.

Let us be done with fault finding and love of self-seeking. May we put away pretense and meet each other face to face without self-pity or prejudice.

May we never be hasty in judging and always generous. Teach us to put into action our better impulses, straightforward and unafraid.

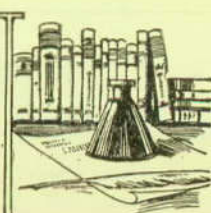
Let us take time for all things, make us grow calm, serene, gentle. Grant that we may realize that it is the little things in life that create difference; that in the big things of life we are one.

And may we strive to touch and know the great common woman's heart of us all. And oh Lord, let us not forget to be kind.





# CORRESPONDENCE



## L. U. NO. 2, ST. LOUIS, MO.

Editor:

The concluding words of the A. F. of L. Monthly Survey of Business for February are these: "We have in America the strange paradox of an economic system equipped to produce a comfortable living standard for all but unable to function. To study the means of making it function is one of labor's foremost tasks today."

During the latter days of February, St. Louis was host to the National Education Association, which has been described as being the "company union dominating education," since its delegates were mainly superintendents, who occupy the role of employers in their relations with the classroom teachers.

However, the John Dewey Society, composed of liberal instructors, heard Dr. George S. Counts, of Teacher's College, Columbia University, describe William Randolph Hearst as a man who appropriates a \$500,000 salary and who fights income taxes. "He prefers a sales tax which rests heavily on the poor." "Frank Belgrano, a wealthy banker, is associated with big business interests. Like Hearst, he would have Legion members used as strike breakers." "Alfred Smith has sold out to privilege." "Father Coughlin employs his sacred office to spread confusion." "Most of the Daughters of the American Revolution are well-to-do women who share the views of Hearst about the desirability of keeping ordinary men and women in their 'proper' places." Liberty League—"The purpose of this group is so obviously that of protecting the great fortunes obtained through munitions sales, speculation and exploitation of the American people that its use of the word 'liberty' is ludicrous and dishonest."

In the department of superintendents, William McAndrew, an editor of "School and Society," was asked "whence came the loyalty oath laws?" McAndrew explained "Sons of the Revolution and daughters of arrested evolution, as well as veterans' organizations searching for a disinfectant to spoil the smell of the bonus, had taken it upon themselves to establish standards for the teachers of the children of America."

The department of classroom teachers discussed "What classroom teachers' organizations can do to meet the new demand in education." The consensus of opinion was that teachers should form themselves into strong organizations such as labor unions—though this term was avoided—so that they could raise the standards of education, take a leading part among community organizations, improve their own economic situation, resist outside interference, free the teachers from political entanglements, etc.

Local No. 420, American Federation of Teachers, is still working to have removed from the rule book of the St. Louis Board of Education, a rule which prohibits any person employed in the instruction department from being or becoming a member of a trade or labor union or of any organization affiliated with a trade or labor union, under penalty of immediate dismissal from the service. Although inoperative, this rule is a detriment in organization, and the combined pleas of the labor movement of the city are expected to

## READ

Peoria does business at same old stand, by L. U. No. 51.

A new local wins wage increase, by L. U. No. 761.

An enterprise well accomplished, by L. U. No. 306.

Baltimore's progress, by L. U. No. 28.

A new trap for pickets, by L. U. No. 16.

Quoddy mysteries, by L. U. No. 567.

Teachers debate, by L. U. No. 2.

Union solidarity, by L. U. No. 702, Zone B.

Rural electrification in Indiana, by L. U. No. 723.

San Antonio meets issues, by L. U. No. 500.

Canada supports L. U. No. 3's case against NEMA, by L. U. No. 625.

TVA workers meet, and get acquainted, by L. U. No. 846.

Honoring an old-timer, by L. U. No. 595.

Does organization pay? by L. U. No. 18.

Lights play over gay scene, by L. U. No. 292.

Political action, by L. U. No. 104.

They get better and better, boys.

Clear thinking, sane analysis,  
co-operative spirit—we  
are gaining.

bring results in March, as the elections are drawing uncomfortably close.

The WPA program is a sore spot in St. Louis, as well as in other places, as reported in the JOURNAL. The "security" advocates insist that a man must become a pauper before he will be allowed to do the work which he has formerly performed. Meanwhile he can watch the scissorbills scab on him, and presumably feel thankful that he is not allowed to scab on himself. With the aforementioned elections in the offing, organized labor is remembering that all protests against this policy, as voiced in favor of the McCarran amendment, fell on deaf ears. The administrators of this WPA in Missouri were warned that they would be sorry if they insisted on carrying out this unfair program, and probably will be "wondering why" after the election.

The Jefferson Memorial proposal is at a standstill, which seems of little importance since the latest proposals included WPA money in the program. Such seems to be the fate of issues involving the livelihood of peoples when they fall prey to politicians.

Brother Schildt, of Local No. 713, has the correct plan, by which I mean his efforts to secure a larger market for union-made electrical equipment.

I will close with a line from one of the Editor's articles in the January JOURNAL: "If labor will hew to the line in co-operation, it will win to greater goals in 1936."

SIDNEY WEISE.

## L. U. NO. 8, TOLEDO, OHIO

Editor:

It is rather comfortable to be sitting down to the machine hammering out this letter in a room where the thermometer registers 72 degrees above zero while just outside the window a 40-mile wind is taking the mercury in a nose dive to eight below. Nowadays that is about all we can do, as all work in this vicinity is tied up due to the aforementioned cold weather. Three weeks of zero weather in a row is unusual even for this part of Ohio, the Buckeye state. Most of our boys are already beginning to wonder what has become of their last summer's wages—that is, what wages they did get. According to the ground hog, we can still expect about six weeks more of cold weather.

We have a few of the members on WPA work who were frozen out this last few weeks. Speaking of WPA, I wonder if the Brothers realize what a fine chance this class of work has given them to organize the unorganized. WPA isn't going to last forever and when the boys on the outside no longer get the prevailing wages, they will be only too glad to sign on the dotted line. If the Brothers get going on the matter with a little judicious talk at the right time one-half of the business manager's task will be done for him, when the time comes to get them into the organization.

Through the tireless and energetic efforts of our business manager the school board threw out most of the nonunion bids for re-wiring to be done on some of our old schools. He was partly successful in eliminating them on the new school work, also. At the present time there is very little new construction going on. Just about enough odd jobs to keep a stack of wheats under most of the members' belts. If we could only find some way to get a lot of the downtown buildings re-wired, get their out-of-date wiring condemned, there would be plenty of work. Some of these buildings were wired about the time that old man Noah laid the keel of the Ark, which will give you a faint idea as to what shape the wiring is in.

With a revival of business most of these buildings which are now empty may be improved and electrical improvement is what they are in need of most. This city is rapidly becoming neon sign conscious. You take a stroll down St. Claire St., which is the rialto of our city, and you will see that the red, blue and green tubes are blossoming everywhere. The sign business is fairly well organized, but it still has room for improvement.

At this writing all of our members are in good health and we hope that we stay that way, for in the spring we expect that conditions will have improved materially with a possibility of work for all of us, and maybe increased wages. There is a rumor floating around that the Electrical Contractors' Association is going to throw a party in the near future, to which we expect to receive an invitation; object of said party being to further the good feeling existing between the two organizations.

No doubt many of the Brothers have heard of the Toledo Plan, which was formulated by Mr. McGrady, to attempt to end all the strikes which were then existing in this city.



Since its formation the federal government has footed the bills. Now that support has been withdrawn and there is a grave danger that the plan will fall by the wayside due to lack of financing. While the plan has not been successful in every case it has done a lot of good in promoting more amicable feelings between capital and labor.

Perhaps you have noticed that the merchants, who only a short time ago were protesting against the payment to the veterans of the so-called "bonus," are now using more persuasive powers to get them to spend it before they get it. No doubt the idea is to have them all broke by next fall, when they will, no doubt, try to put the hooks into them on the theory that when a man is broke and has no job it is easier to cut their wages and break down the conditions which took so long to build up.

BILL CONWAY.

#### L. U. NO. 16, EVANSVILLE, IND.

Editor:

We note an article which was published in a magazine under, "It happened in Alton, Illinois":

Walter Jochen was annoyed when a picket began pacing before his filling station carrying an "unfair" placard.

He hired a corpulent colored woman to keep step with the neatly dressed white man. She bore a sign, too: "Just married."

The Evansville Press carried, "What Happened in Evansville":

Builder sued for \$5,000 by picket. George Duncan accuses William Johann and A-One Building Material Company of "publicly ridiculing and disgracing him" in a \$5,000 damage suit filed against the company in circuit court, Monday.

The suit charges that while he was lawfully picketing the company's place of business at 509 N. Fourth St., a negro woman, allegedly hired by Mr. Johann, manager of the company, walked beside him carrying a large sign which read: "We have just been married." The suit was filed by Attorney Bex Trimble.

Mr. Johann declined to comment on the case.

This might be of interest to the Brotherhood and would like to have it published under Local Union No. 16 letter in the WORKER.

W. E. LYCAN,  
Business Manager.

#### L. U. NO. 18, LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

Editor:

Does organization pay? A question we have all heard times too numerous to mention, but it's a question all the old members can answer in the affirmative with a loud "Yes!" Were it possible to interview the members here on the little job I am on, it would be quite interesting. For years I was the only union man on the job (I might state here that the job is civil service), and the boys on the job thought they had nothing to fear, that they were sitting on the hilltop tossing all their troubles to the moon. But, alas, along came the panic; we suffered a 10 per cent cut in our pay and in another two weeks we took out number two, but still they could not see the benefit to be gained by organizing. The question of jurisdiction was raised and was defended by myself. Some thought \$4 a month dues was entirely out of reason. But, to make a long story short, in the middle of 1935 they all signed on the dotted line and our requests were given to the business manager of Local No. 18. He

lost no time in his very efficient work. He made wonderful progress, with the result that, starting July 1, 1935, we received a \$12-a-month increase in our pay checks.

And as I have said, our business manager is a fast and efficient worker. He was not fully satisfied with what he had accomplished. The other employees of the department enjoyed 12 holidays a year with pay, which we did not get, so out goes Brother Williams again for us, and did he get results? I'll say he did! We were notified in December, 1935, that beginning January 1, 1936, we would be allowed 11 holidays for the year. And this is not all. On January 29 and on February 5, he attended the commission meetings of our department and, as a result, starting February 15, we will have our paycheck increased another \$9 per month.

Now, Brothers, how is that for efficiency? (Pie cards, take note!) Twenty-one dollars per month increase in our pay and 11 holidays with pay! Really, to me, it was a marvelous piece of work. And are Brothers I work with satisfied? And how! They now realize what organization really does for them. Their signing on the dotted line is now really paying big dividends, but I maintain that the local never had a better set of officers than at present. They really "go to town." Brother Williams, as business manager, and Brother George Evans, as his assistant, are major league calibre. Give them a little more time and watch them go places. Nuf sed!

At this point, I want to say that the scribe of Local No. 18 gets many letters from different parts of the country. Following is a sample of one of them, and my answer:

February 21, 1936.

This is to thank you for sending me the two marked copies of your February issue, containing your very interesting story on the war against the slums.

I want to thank you particularly for your friendly statement concerning the work of The Alley Dwelling Authority. I notice, however, that you give us entirely too much credit in stating that we have purchased sites for reclamation of alley slums "at less than 10 per cent of the assessed values." This would be a truly remarkable achievement, even more so than the fact that our site purchases during the past year aggregated somewhat less than 10 per cent over the assessed valuation. Assessed values in Washington are, on the whole, very conservative, and we regard our site purchase statistics with justifiable pride. This comparatively low figure was made possible by the fact that the authority has approximately 200 squares in which to operate and consequently is able to exercise an important bargaining power in negotiations with owners of real estate in squares containing inhabited alleys.

Sincerely yours,  
(Signed) JAMES RING,  
Administrative Assistant,  
Alley Dwelling Authority  
for District of Columbia.

"Mr. J. E. Horne,  
"Local Union No. 18, Los Angeles, Calif.  
"Dear sir:

"I would like to get lined up with some electric company as a lineman or a line foreman. I worked for one company for eight years; I was assistant foreman and foreman for six years. I worked one year for a municipal outfit as lineman and plant operator.

"I have some very nice letters of recommendation. I am a man six foot, three; weigh 190 pounds; 35 years old. I have not done much line work in the last two years, so I am working in the oil field at present and trying to locate a line job some way. I have built transmission and distribution lines; have worked some telephone.

"I will be ready to join your local there if you will get me lined up on a job. Please let me hear from you by return mail.

"Yours truly,

"\_\_\_\_\_."

My answer:

"Mr. \_\_\_\_\_,

"Your letter of December 27, 1935, received quite some time back. Would have answered sooner but was at a loss to know just what to say to you. I can't believe that it was your intention to tell me of all your experience, which, if true, put you in the business for at least 10 years; also, telling me of your letters of recommendation, your age, height, weight, etc., and then completing your letter by telling me that you are ready to join our local, providing, of course, that we provide employment for you either as a lineman or a line foreman. That might be a wonderful drawing card in certain localities, but it's mud to us out here on the coast. It's our business to try to find employment for union men.

"Now, if I were in your place, I would hunt up the nearest I. B. E. W. local union, lay my money on the barrel head and sign on the dotted line. Then if you feel so inclined, send out your requests. I am sure you would have much better success. This is our way of doing business and we hope you appreciate it. If, and when, you do become a member of the I. B. E. W., you will then see why we say, 'Vigilance is the price of liberty.'

"In closing, I want to say that I hope you digest the contents of this thoroughly, then act as your conscience dictates.

"Respectfully yours,

"J. E. HORNE.

"P.S.—You evidently read the ELECTRICAL WORKERS' JOURNAL, which we appreciate. Keep it up, as it is very, very educational."

Now, as I have used my allotted space for this period will try to be back next month with something more interesting.

J. E. HORNE.

#### L. U. NO. 26, NAVY YARD BRANCH, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Editor:

Most of the gang in our local have been remarking the fact that their press secretary is a man of few words. Right here we will attempt to prove otherwise. Strange, how long winded some of us can be when there is absolutely no necessity for it. Just now I am very quiet and my head seems to be full of saw dust.

Our local is eight years old this month, and we continue to increase our membership. Six new applications were in last month and there are more on the way. Of course, this all means more work for Brother Johnny Floyd, our tireless financial secretary. Johnny knocks the foundry dust off his ancient felt hat and grins, so we should worry about his troubles.



Our membership is now going well past the 100 mark, and this showing must be gratifying, to say the least, to those who started the ball rolling eight years ago. After all, there is nothing like hard times and bad working conditions to teach the value of labor organization. If the old story of the cloud with the silver lining still holds good, we may live to see the day when we will look back upon this depression with the knowledge that with all its hell, it brought some horse sense to many workers who were living in some sort of fools' paradise before old man Depression dropped on them like a ton of bricks.

By the time I am due to break out with another letter, we are hoping for some good news from Capitol Hill. In the meantime, we will try to settle the question for a certain worried Brother, who at the February meeting wanted to know, "Who is the maestro?"

CLARENCE DURAND.

#### L. U. NO. 28, BALTIMORE, MD.

Editor:

How these months roll over so fast! It soon will be spring, and us scribes will be writing up poetry on the park benches.

Local No. 28, at its last regular meeting of February, has made another addendum known as No. 4, wherein it states that on and after March 1, 1936, our members working on jobs of more than 750 man-working hours will be paid \$1.37 per hour, other work of less hours will be a scale of \$1.10 per hour. The former rate will be known as class B and the latter class A. This was done in order to compete with non-union firms, and also conforms with our government set scale for this zone. And, personally, I am very much in favor of it, and so are the majority of the membership. Any member who did not attend that meeting can get the correct info from the financial secretary.

Having resigned as the janitor it makes it tough to get a line on the boys. Anyway a few of us are working for Uncle Sam, namely, Sholtz, Hoffman, McCauley, Ed Miller, Thompson and Mike Cushman. O'Connor succeeded me as janitor, then resigned, now C. Mooney is the chief, and making good too. L. Nachter has been employed by Uncle Sam in Annapolis; seems he quits and goes back there as he wishes. Still carries the old smile. Pat Bandel, our former business representative, is in the South. I hope you make good, Pat. Parthree, Manuel and Winterstem are home from Miami, Fla., with a good coat of tan. Thanks Local No. 349 for giving our boys a break. The boys speak very highly of you. I hope some day we can reciprocate.

Bachie, No. 211, A. C., you old lion man! I am going to write a biography as per request, "How an electrical worker makes good as a first class janitor." Watch the papers.

A great many members only read the home town letters and possibly follow their favorite writers' letters, but if you will take the February issue, turn to page 75, middle column, and read "Thirty Hour Week," by J. H. Carr, Local No. 124, Kansas City, I think everyone will heartily agree with him. Don't miss it.

The office for the new Eastern High School is up, and Ed Lorinski is on the job at present. It is a PWA job.

Seems some of our labor delegates in Baltimore are interested in anti-Hitler movements. My tip is take care of ourselves in the U. S. A. and keep our own noses clean. Outside interference has caused wars, and our own government is trying hard to be neutral. And who in 'ell wants war? I used to give \$2 weekly to pay for tobacco during the World War for the boys over there, but

### Single Tax Again Offered

Editor:

After over five years of depression and many tried palliatives as the NRA, AAA, and what not that have failed to "prime the pump," we should realize by now there is no other solution than the application of the natural law for our social ills. We must follow the natural law or suffer as we are doing now.

There is no end to quack remedies. We forget yesterday's failures and propose a new dose tomorrow for the country's plight with 10,000,000 helpless idle, that have no place to work.

We should know all things we need come from the earth and the only way to get them and adapt them for use is by labor. The only place to work is this earth we find ourselves on and if men can not make a living it is because we are violating man's natural right to use the earth.

We must free the earth for all and the easy way to do this is by the application of the single tax that will take the profit of land ownership and put it in the public treasury.

This will solve the out of work problem as well as the growing poverty, for it will give man his natural place to work so he can supply his needs with his labor.

Economics is the social science that gives the natural law of the distribution of wealth and unless it is based on the equal rights of all to use the earth it has no foundation. Because man failed to see and has ignored this law we have chaos instead of order in our civilization, discord instead of harmony, poverty instead of prosperity for all.

This great social truth was the message that Henry George gave to the world when he lived. He is dead 38 years and we are coming to better understand his greatness. Ten years ago he got only three votes for a place in the hall of fame. The late election for this great honor gave him 56 votes, five more would have elected him to a place with our most famous men that now number 72. California will vote for a substantial measure of the single tax in 1936. As the measure repeals the sales tax, abolishes taxes on homes and all improvements on land in five years period, 99 out of 100 voters in that state will gain by its adoption. Organized labor in that state is backing this initiative measure that will become a law without any act of the legislature by a majority vote.

We are finding the way to that better day we are looking for.

E. H. BOECK,

I. O.

they had to buy tobacco just the same. So who knows where the anti-Hitler money that is subscribed goes to? This may hurt some of our Jewish boys' feelings, but it's not meant that way. After all this is America and you are Americans.

Would like to know what Brice MacMillan of L. U. No. 163, calls the baby's name, if any.

I would like to have another Saturday night in "Murphy's" with the old gang. 'Member the old brass foot rest? I wore out a coat sleeve on that arm rest. They were good old days. The good old Davis Electric Shop and a swell boss and good gang. Bill Piatt knows. My regards to Gormer Davis, too.

Well, fellows, I have been telling you all along you would hear from the executive board before March 1, and now I am going to say by June 1, Local No. 28 men will be mostly working. See how near I hit—but don't hit me if I miss. Buchoff and Chomet, two Irishmen, report the depression has knocked something out of their religion. Perhaps they are eating hog meat; tough break. A. C. Hoffman resigned from the executive board and is now vice president and also delegate to B. T. C. Cliff Higgins was appointed to Baltimore Federation of Labor. Jack Young was placed on the executive board.

True story is: The new janitor who succeeded me tried to draw water in the boiler, forgot to shut off the valve tight, flooded the building, and when some executive board member came in that night found him, pants up, shoes off, bailing out the basement. He got so much experience with this water that he signed up on some ship, after holding the job six days. O'Connor, do not try bailing off the deck when you

are out on the high seas. Send us a card—time card. Weather today is so warm and spring like, 70, and this is where I cuts and PARKS.

#### L. U. NO. 39, CLEVELAND, OHIO

Editor:

It was a real surprise as well as a great pleasure to the electrical trade and to the advocates of municipally-owned plants, the decision of the Supreme Court upholding the TVA which validates the right of the government to utilize the rivers and harness the streams for the soil, for the manufacturing of nitrates and other essentials to be used in the prosecution of the next war (which we hope will never occur again), and to sell the surplus power to the municipalities in competition with private industry.

This decision has a far-reaching effect on the much-discussed power question and settles it for a long time, at least, and will at last unshackle the people from the giant octopus, the once almighty powerful power trust. Boy, page Mr. Insull! Thanks to this one-time financier of unlimited and arrogant power, who not only opened the eyes of the power monopolists by the grand gyping he gave them, but left a strong impression on the judiciary of that august body and was instrumental in restoring to the people their God-given rights once again to use and to dictate to what use the rivers and streams of this country of ours may be utilized to serve the best interests of the greatest number of people.

I never could conceive in my mind why the American public ever delegated so much power to their public servants. Have we not to expect from them that they are to serve their constituents? And what rule or authority has been vested in them that the



moment they are elevated to office they seem by a queer turn of mind to arrogate to themselves that they are our masters? We have been radioed a fortnight ago of a gathering that took place in Washington, the Liberty League's dinner. The people's idol of the '28 campaign, the Happy Warrior from New York's East Side in the Fulton Market District, to hear him tell it, was as common as we, and ate the same food we do. But what a change came over this man since they have been feeding him caviar for breakfast and lunch with the Duponts and the Raskobs! The whole scheme of things is all wrong because there is some social legislation on the law books recently passed, and old friend Al is mad. The administration must be wrong, as was the previous administration, so old warrior Al is no more one of the common people. What a flop he turned out to be!

In reminiscing the other day at work I met one of the country's oldest linemen. He was classed as an old man at the business when I started in 1899, and as I look about me I see what the march of time has done to those stalwart men who helped to blaze the way in the building of telephone, telegraph, and power lines all over this great land. Let me name a few: Mike Cullinan (ould divil), Frank Sullivan, Gus Moore (still in the harness), Eddy Rankin, Burt Sutherland, all slowing up just a bit.

There is Curley Hale and some others whom space will not permit me to mention. But Father Time is surely catching up with us and the change is noticeable, which reminds me of a Brailey poem I once read. Here it is:

I am on the downhill side of 40. I'm slender and I'm fit.  
And you kid yourself about it, you are slowing up a bit.  
You may play as well as ever, but you don't come back so soon,  
And you catch yourself a napping 'long about mid afternoon.  
You may doll up bright and sporty, but you still remain in truth,  
On the downhill side of 40, which is quite a way from youth.  
On the downhill side of 40 you're less prone to take a chance;  
You don't gamble quite so freely with adventure and romance.  
Though you may have been a gypsy you don't roam unless you feel  
That you're never sure of lacking for a bed or for a meal;  
You are just a wee bit cautious where your errant footsteps stray,  
On the downhill side of 40, and your hair is turning gray.  
On the downhill side of 40, it is not so bad a time,  
Though you can't deny you're getting just a little past your prime.  
You can watch the children growing into women and to men,  
And in them you get your youth and all its glory back again.  
You won't mind the growing older with the youngsters and the wife—  
On the downhill side of 40, but the sunny side of life.

JOSEPH E. ROACH.

#### L. U. NO. 51, PEORIA, ILL.

Editor:

This is station L. U. No. 51 returning to the air for another period of broadcasting of local news and conditions (particularly weather) in and around old Peoria.

On page 32 of the January issue is a list of members belonging to the Fraternity of the Air, I. B. E. W. amateur radio stations. In scanning this roster of stations I notice

that Peoria as usual is conspicuous by its absence, although we have a Brother here who has such a station and, in my humble opinion is capable of maintaining same at the standard required by the federal government to permit being on the air. So, come on, Brother W. L. (Lee) Birren, and let's see your name in this growing list of stations!

As reported last month the old Fey Hotel block is being torn down to make way for a new building for Montgomery Ward and Co., but due to the severe cold weather the work has not been completed at this time, and speaking of weather, this particular locality has really enjoyed (?) one of the old-fashioned types this year, to beat all records of our weather bureau. As taken from memory, after having read in the local paper some few days ago, from January 17 until February 17 the average temperature has been 4.6 degrees below zero, as against all time record of 6.5 degrees. During this time the mercury reached 20.5 degrees below and 19 degrees below and 15 degrees below on several different days. In fact, when it got way up to zero you could see the boys on the job shucking their heavy coats and complaining of the heat.

Since last month Peoria has been visited with a fire of some magnitude. The Seneca Hotel, at the corner of Franklin St. and Second Ave., was gutted February 11, at 1 p. m. This was a four-story brick veneer structure, containing 87 rooms, and the complete building was so badly damaged that in the writer's opinion it will be torn down. The loss was estimated at \$100,000. It was a fortunate circumstance that this fire broke out during the day, as the management reported that all but three rooms were occupied and then two or three patrons were taken from the building by means of ladders, while one lady leaped into the life net and was the only victim of old man Accident. Failing to heed the firemen's instructions to jump into the net in a sitting position, she landed standing up and was considerably shaken up, besides suffering a wrenched back.

Was glad to see where L. U. No. 309 held a get-together and had such a splendid time. I often wonder if such affairs, put on more often, are not essential to the welfare of our organization. You meet your friends when you have time to talk over events and you come to understand each other in the better moods of life, and after all, isn't our entire organization based on understanding?

Local Unions No. 51 and No. 34, of Peoria, have held a few joint picnics in the past, which were real successes and my only regret is that the program was discontinued. Of course, it goes without saying that L. U. No. 34 was always on the short end of the score in the ball game. Then games were played and contests held for the men, women and children, with suitable prizes for each event, which prizes, by the way, were donated by the contractors and utility company.

In looking over the picture of the entertainment committee of L. U. No. 309, will say that Brother Wegener is like good whiskey, "improves with age," and greetings to Brother James Altie.

Was very sorry to hear the sad news of the death of L. U. No. 303's Brother Thomas Dealy's wife, and our sincere sympathy goes out to him.

And now we come to the close of our program. L. U. No. 51 now signing off until this same time next month. With best wishes to our friends.

HOLLY.

#### L. U. NO. 65, BUTTE, MONT.

Editor:

Time for a line to the JOURNAL. We are on top of the Divide, and have plenty of snow for one winter. We have about all of our members at work once more, and hope that by next month we can say they are all on the pay roll by then.

The power and telephone have about the same crew as usually employed. If the power companies are foresighted enough to seize the opportunity they have now many men would be put to work. They will have to cut their rates sometime in the near future or the cities are going to have municipal plants of their own. Many communities are looking forward to that end.

It looks like Green and Lewis are going to do a battle royal to get the upper hand and the workers are the goats. We do not have industrial unions in name in the mining industry in Montana, but the union with the majority of votes runs the show, and the smaller crafts are forced to abide by their vote. They are upheld by our international heads, so it looks to me as though we are industrial.

Last month's JOURNAL was filled with good reading.

To those who have written to me in regard to conditions with the mining company, I am going to answer your letters as fast as I can get to them. To the teamster in New York City, I am getting the facts that you have asked about. You sure have the spirit of unionism.

R. G. WHITEHEAD.

#### L. U. NO. 104, BOSTON, MASS.

Editor:

Local Union No. 104 sends its greetings to the Brotherhood. It is some time since we have contributed a letter to the JOURNAL. But even though we have been a little lax with this important matter, I can assure you we have been more than busy with the affairs of our local. There is always plenty to do in keeping up with the routine work of the local, but when you add to it all the new work that is the product of these fast changing times, you can spell that busy with a capital B. And the new work has to be done. What with the different governments, federal, state, and city, of our nation leaning so favorably toward labor; with public sentiment, that terribly fickle thing, so strong for organized labor, and with those workers outside the pale of union labor even knocking at our gates, isn't it the opportune time for us to bring about that labor millennium that is so often in our dreams? Local No. 104 is trying to keep up with all these things. We are fortunate in having at this time a most excellent group of officers, and under the able leadership of President O'Keefe, the local is "going places and doing things." To enumerate some of the "things": There is definite labor legislation, extensive organization of the unorganized, the seeking and finding of new work for the members to take the place of the disappearing old, and the extending and strengthening of an organization in our state known as the Massachusetts Association of Electrical Workers.

At a lecture recently on labor relations, the speaker, a member of the British Labor Party, said that, according to his observations, one of the great weaknesses of organized labor in America is the lack of political interest and power in the organization. We elect men to office regardless of their views about labor and we show little interest in the bills going through our different legislatures that so vitally affect our jobs as workers. Local No. 104 has been especially mindful of this condition and the present officers are

#### THIS BUTTON IN YOUR LAPEL



proudly announces membership in the I. B. E. W. A handsome bit of jewelry, in gold and enamel. Solid gold, small size. \$1.50



and have been very energetic in rectifying it. Notice of the different bills going through the legislature has been given from time to time at our regular meetings and delegates have been appointed to attend hearings on the same. Our worthy president, John O'Keefe, has had numbers of speakers address our regular meetings in an effort to give us the information and wisdom we need to intelligently act towards these matters. At the present time we are engaged in one of the biggest jobs the local ever attempted along this line. In conjunction with the good Brothers of Local Union No. 326, of Lawrence, Lowell and Haverhill (and I salute them, for they are good Brothers), we are sponsoring a bill in the general courts of Massachusetts to license sub and power station operators and linemen, and to require power companies to have a licensed man on the job both for line work and the operation of substations, both manual and automatic, and power stations. We feel that with a license back of us our jobs are more secure and with a trained man on the job the worker and the general public will have the best protection from accidents they can possibly have.

To convert a bill into the law of the land is no easy task. First, the bill has to be so shaped as to make it appealing to the general court; and then it has to be intelligently handled, for one wrong move might add tremendously to the difficulties involved in its passage. This part of the job gives us no concern for we are sure we have the best attorney Massachusetts affords in charge. What a lot of work is involved in getting the political support the bill needs! And the publicity. Notices about the bill scattered far and wide, radio broadcasts, speakers detailed to address the proper gatherings on this matter, and the further building up of a public sentiment for the bill by the members and officers of all the locals involved, making it the principal topic of their conversation, no matter with whom they talk. And last, but not least, the raising of the necessary money to defray the expense of such an enterprise! I say the task is big, but the officers of the two locals involved are bigger than the task. They have one quality that stands out and above all others and which is going to make them successful in this endeavor; that quality is courage. What hasn't been accomplished when courage has been in the ascendency! Our most excellent president kindly requests the moral support of all the local unions in Massachusetts that we may successfully accomplish the passage of this bit of legislation.

Our local is intensely interested in the Massachusetts Association of Electrical Workers. It is made up of one or more of the officers of each of the locals of the Brotherhood in the state. It is accomplishing things for all the locals involved that could not be done in any other way. One of the best things it is doing is the creating of a fraternal condition among the members of the Brotherhood that promises to be a great help in solving the problems that confront the Brotherhood and the individual local. Through this organization its members are able to work as a unit rather than as detached groups scattered all over the state. One can readily see the great need of such an organization and how it will advance the cause of organized labor in Massachusetts. We shall be glad to report from time to time through these columns the progress of this organization.

The picture enclosed shows two of our members at work. It was clipped from the pictorial page of the Boston Sunday Post of January 19, 1936. It tells its own story. All honor to these men who work in the darkness,



## Public Attitude Versus WPA Works

By CHARLES D. MASON, L. U. No. 134, Chicago

The Works Progress Administration has undeservedly been made the butt of ridicule by money interests and politically owned and operated newspapers. The press has popularized such phrases as "easy money," "slush funds," "tax eaters" and many other catch phrases which have been used in a slurring and derogatory manner against the administration.

They have ignored completely the accomplishments of this bureau in its many splendid achievements since it was established. Their policy has been one of destructive criticism, giving no credit for honest and sane expenditures of funds which have given useful employment to thousands.

No branch of this bureau, no matter how worthwhile its functions are, has been free from the scurrilous attacks of the anti-administration press in its deception to the public.

### The Traffic Division

Let us take one division of the PWA as an example and see if we cannot illustrate more clearly to our readers this unwarranted attack by the hostile newspapers. This division was established for the purpose of making a complete and intelligent traffic survey in the city of Chicago. The purpose was to determine how to best route traffic to facilitate its flow, especially during rush hours.

Also to determine where streets could be improved and widened, one-way traffic enforced, installation of proper parking and street signs and stop and go lights.

These things were done, not only to speed up traffic, but also to reduce accidents to both motorists and pedestrians. Also, included in this program was the building of bridges and viaducts, over and under dangerous grade crossings to protect human life. The elimination of obstacles along streets and highways which tended to obscure a clear view for drivers. The timing of stop and go lights in order that they may be set to allow an unbroken flow of traffic on arterial thoroughfares.

### What Has Been Accomplished

Newspapers, motor clubs, civic groups and many other organizations have sought from time to time to solve some of our traffic problems, particularly those involving safety. None of them have met with the slurs and derision of a hostile press except the PWA.

Our traffic division, under the supervision of Otto K. Jelinek, employs approximately 500 men at present. About 400 of them are known as traffic checkers, who are placed in strategical positions in various parts of the city and provided with counting devices to make an accurate check of traffic passing certain intersections. Each group is under a senior checker whose duty it is to supervise their work and keep their time.

### A Most Worthy Project

The figures collected by the checkers are turned over to a force of tabulators who compile them in condensed form.

Men working on this project are paid from \$55 per month for the checkers to \$94 for a draftsman. Many building tradesmen are working on this project.

It is a most worthy undertaking and well deserves the wholehearted support of the public and press, but it's near election time and the knockers have their hammers working overtime.

I am just a befuddled building tradesman who took the trouble to investigate what looked like a sordid picture, but found it to be a splendid, worthwhile activity.



in the cold, the snow, the rain, to keep the lines of traffic open that you and I may ride safely and comfortably to where our daily work and pleasure may take us. [Editor's note: Sorry, we cannot use newspaper prints.]

In closing let me say that I find this department the most interesting and helpful of all the excellent things the JOURNAL prints. And I shall be glad to keep the JOURNAL informed of the many doings of Local Union No. 104.

HAM.

#### L. U. NO. 211, ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.

Editor:

Tsk! Tsk! not to mention a few pardonable damns, for it looks as though the Misses Doris and Edith have put me on the spot. However, the missus knows that liquor is my only weakness, so girls, "C'mup and see 'US' sometime."

Did you ever stop and ponder, stop and wonder, stop and think where do all the Mae West stories originate? Here's the latest making the rounds in A. C., stop me if you've heard it. Mae, wanting some first-hand information about the Italo-Ethiopian fracas, made a flying trip over to the war zone. Haile Selassie, learning of her presence in his home town, donned his best Sunday-go-to-meetin' rags and proceeded to her hotel. But the clerk informed him that it would be impossible to see Miss West that day, as she was upstairs with lumbago. Ol' Haile glared at him in disgust and replied, "I might have known that one of those dam' wops would beat me to it."

My personal nomination for the lowest and meanest thief is the two-legged rat who stole the Sweet-Orr buttons off my jumper, with sincere apologies to the four-legged members of the rodent family.

The rarest thing in the world is a single drop of perspiration on the brow of any PWA or WPA worker (Holly, please note). And speaking of him just reminds me, despite the fact that I have been on the aqua pura conveyance for four years, four months, 12 days and six hours (as this is being typed) I can still tell the difference between the riveter's gun and that of a typewriter. Thanks for the chatty letter, ennahoe. One good turn deserves another.

I see by the papers that a 96-year-old youngster expects to become a fond papa, for the second time within two years. Wotta man. Now, if it were a 96-year-old woman who was about to become a mother THAT would be real news.

We were very sorry to learn of the death of Mrs. Tommie Dealy, the wife of our old friend in St. Catharines, Ont. We had the pleasure of meeting the little lady in the fall of 1929. A most gracious hostess, a wonderful mother and a charming woman.

Work on the postoffice is progressing very slowly, due to the inclement weather, and the fact that the lumber for the forms is being hauled in from Virginia, and there seems to be but two trucks doing the hauling. Today the carpenters were knocked off, but looking out the window I can see Bugs and Ott laying out their part of the job.

While we have had our share of cold weather, if I told you of the temperatures that have prevailed since the first of the new year, the rest of the readers would give me the needles. In comparison we have had summer weather, for at no time has the thermometer been below five above. But we have had some right smart snows that raised havoc with the traffic problems. Will have to get in touch with Major Bowes, for I heard him call a certain port o' call in

Florida, "The Playground of the World," which is stealing our stuff with vengeance.

The letter of ex-Brother Kelley to Brother Carr, of L. U. No. 394, deserves deep consideration, and much can be said in favor of the suggestions contained within. But, inasmuch as it conflicts with the I. B. E. W. constitution, without which no organization or government can hope to function, I am afraid that the unfortunate Brother's appeal will have to be denied. We all know that the Brotherhood has lost many members through no fault of their own, nor that of the local union to which they belonged. But, on the other hand, there have been a larger number of members who had to be dropped from the rolls for the simple reason they would make no attempt to HELP THEMSELVES and ignored the pleas of the various executive boards that they, the delinquent members, come up before the board and state just what they could do towards easing the strain on the local's bankroll.

We had to drop some of the worst offenders for that very reason, but not before every conceivable method to save them was tried out. They seemed to think that it was their God-given right to spend what little money they may have had for anything or everything excepting for their dues or even the per capita tax. But I noticed that in some cases those same members could run around in their cars and never missed the fights or wrestling matches.

So it is my contention that if the bars are let down for the deserving ex-members it will create a situation that the chiselers can legally use as a loop hole for their own reinstatement.

In my opinion the chiselers really wanted to be dropped, as they only carried a card for the big wage scales, and as soon as Old Man Depression hit us he presented an excellent excuse for dropping the ticket.

The height of sumpin' er other is the hombre who paid his fine in the Camden, N. J., police court with a phoney 10-spot. You can't beat that, let alone tie it. Then there is Mr. Morgan's leisure class who can afford a maid. How about the leisure class that got that way through the depression? Most of the latter are slowly growing screwy from too much leisure.

The Hauptmann case continues to get first page rating. Why all the maudlin sentiment over an alien criminal who is illegally in this country? With plenty of American born, law abiding citizens who need help, it is a huge crime in itself to waste any time or sympathy on the despicable baby-snatcher.

Major General Hagood has apparently been relegated to the army's scrap pile. All of which shows the foolishness of speaking out of turn, and is concrete evidence that no one man can successfully buck a well-oiled machine, political or otherwise. He may think he is getting by with it, but in 99 cases out of every 100 it is simply a case of the author kidding himself.

And that brings us to the close of a very hectic day. Nothing went right, and even the sun refused to shine. To all of which must be added the fact that I'm so darn lackadaisical that I don't even want to knock the whiskers off. My personal opinion of heaven is some place where a fella don't have to shave unless the urge to do so is uppermost.

With kindest personal regards to all, and especially to Homer E. Wilson down in Havana (Florida).

BACHIE.

#### L. U. NO. 292, MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Editor:

The night of Saturday, February 1, was gala night for L. U. No. 292. It was the night of the thirty-sixth annual Electrical Workers' Ball, given in Cataract Masonic Hall, from 8:30 p. m. to 12:30 a. m., at which time and place we entertained over 500 people. The tickets were 40 cents, which included a chance on the door prizes. And what a wonderful affair it was!

All day Saturday the committee, together with a couple of dozen volunteers, were busy decorating the hall—which, by the way, is one of the finest in the city—with colored paper, electric streamers, spot lights and other electrical effects. One feature of the decorations was a 24-inch ball covered with small fragments of mirror, suspended from the center of the ceiling and made to revolve by a small motor. This, when the other lights were turned off and spot lights, from each end of the hall, were played upon it, gave the effect of whirling, falling, dancing snowflakes on the walls, ceiling and floor of the hall. Quite a novel and beautiful effect.

In each corner of the hall was placed a large spot light—1,000-watt lamp—shaded with a blue screen which gave another, though rather weird effect.

About the middle of the evening there was an intermission, during which about 25 door prizes were drawn and awarded to those holding the lucky numbers. These ranged all the way from one-half dozen 40-watt lamps to valuable floor lamps, electric clocks and toasters.

After this came the line-up and march past the ante-room windows where the favors were given out—paper hats, noise makers, etc. From then on the party became a carnival of hilarious fun.

Near each end of the hall at the ceiling were hung large clusters of toy balloons, and later in the evening, when the merriment was at its height these were released and hundreds of varicolored balloons came drifting down upon the dancers.

And so the party went on until 12:30, a joyous frolic of beauty, pleasure and gaiety. The affair was a grand success, both socially and financially, and the committee certainly earned the appreciation and admiration of the local union for the success attendant upon their efforts. Also, the gratitude of the local is due to the members of the women's auxiliary for their splendid assistance, both selling tickets and assisting with the entertainment. The evening's enjoyment will long be remembered by all who were present.

W. WAPLES.

#### L. U. NO. 306, AKRON, OHIO

Editor:

We have been absent from these pages for several months, but have not been at a standstill. The majority of our signed agreements have been in effect for 15 months. Of course, there are some "wobblies" among these same contractors, who require constant surveillance, but so much for that.

As said before, we have been absent from these pages and due to the reported suppression of news from our city we feel that a first-hand report of the Goodyear strike would be welcomed by you Brothers out yonder. My only apology for covering the Goodyear situation so fully instead of our own problems is that the success of the Goodyear strike is the concern of every organized worker in greater Akron. If they fail, other organized workers fail in their objectives; which are signed agreements and the right to collective bargaining.

To begin with, the principal organizations and individuals in the Goodyear strike are:



The United Rubber Workers of America, Goodyear Local No. 2, Governor M. L. Davey, Assistant U. S. Secretary of Labor Edward F. McGrady (father of the famed Toledo Plan), Summit County Central Labor Union, defense committee of the Summit County Central Labor Union, Labor Attorney E. E. Zesiger, Mayor Schroy, District Attorney Herman Werner, six common pleas judges, a publicity seeking "citizens' committee," P. W. Litchfield (president of Goodyear), and last, but not least and not to be forgotten, National Guard Captain Jim Flower, high sheriff of Summit County.

In the face of increased profits in 1935, especially during the last three months of that year, the company has initiated a program of wage cuts on piece work. This is undertaken in spite of the increased cost of

living which is making it harder and harder for the workers to support their families even with wages staying as they were.

Before the fact-finding board from the Department of Labor last fall the Goodyear management openly admitted that they had installed a plan which called for a gradual reduction in productive workers. This plan meant the laying off of 12 per cent of the force or about 1,000 workers.

To keep up production with fewer workers, the company has been making each department work faster. Each man has to do more work each hour but his wage per hour is not increased. If he can't stand the faster pace he is fired for a younger man who can.

The company has taken workers into the plant and given them privileges in the form of increased seniority rights which they do

not deserve. This so-called "production squadron" is given an added five-year seniority over and above their actual seniority. This squadron is told that its members will be given managerial positions but they were being used as threats to force greater production out of the workers.

The company also has a company union which they prefer to be known as an "assembly" with senators and representatives. Last summer the company refused the workers the right to hold a referendum, giving as an excuse that the assembly was the duly elected body that governed the workers in their dealings with the management.

A "sit-down" in protest against wage-cuts, lay-offs and threats of discharge to those who staged the sit-down, happened in the middle of February. A refusal to negotiate with the

## FRATERNITY OF THE AIR

(Copyright)

Boys, here is our growing list of I. B. E. W. amateur radio stations:

160 meter  
phone, 1963  
K C

N 6 I A H  
W 1 A G I  
W 1 D G W  
W 1 F J A  
W 1 I N P  
W 2 A M B  
W 2 B F L  
W 2 B Q B  
W 2 C A D  
W 2 D X K  
W 2 G A M  
W 2 G I Y  
W 2 H F J  
W 2 I P R  
W 2 S M  
W 3 J B  
W 4 B O E  
W 4 B S Q  
W 4 D H P  
W 4 D L W  
W 4 J Y  
W 4 L O  
W 4 S E  
W 5 A B Q  
W 5 A S D  
W 5 B H O  
W 5 C A P  
W 5 E I  
W 5 E X Y  
W 5 E Y G  
W 5 F G C  
W 5 J C  
W 6 A O R  
W 6 C R M  
W 6 D D P  
W 6 E V  
W 6 F W M  
W 6 G F I  
W 6 H L K  
W 6 H L X  
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W 6 I B X

H. E. Owen  
S. E. Hyde  
W. C. Nielson  
Melvin I. Hill  
Frank W. Lavery  
Eugene G. Warner  
Fred W. Huff  
Anthony J. Samaliois  
William E. Kind  
Paul A. Ward  
Irving Megeff  
R. L. Petrask, Jr.  
John C. Muller  
R. L. Petrask, Jr.  
S. Kokinchak  
James E. Johnston  
William N. Wilson  
C. T. Lee  
S. L. Hicks  
Albert R. Keyser  
Harry Hill  
I. J. Jones  
L. C. Kron  
C. M. Gray  
Gerald Morgan  
Frank A. Finger  
D. H. Calk  
William L. Canze  
F. H. Ward  
H. R. Fees  
L. M. Reed  
Milton T. Lyman  
J. B. Rives  
Francis M. Sarver  
William H. Johnson  
John H. Barnes  
Lester P. Hammond  
Victor B. Appel  
Roy Meadows  
Charles A. Noyes  
Frank A. Maher  
Rudy Rear  
S. E. Hyde  
Barney E. Land

Angola, N. Y.  
Los Angeles, Calif.  
Newport, R. I.  
W. Springfield, Mass.  
Somerville, Mass.  
East Hartford, Conn.  
Woodbridge, N. J.  
Elizabeth, N. J.  
Bronx, N. Y. C.  
Newark, N. J.  
Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Newark, N. J.  
Bronx, N. Y. C.  
Newark, N. J.  
Yonkers, N. Y.  
New York, N. Y.  
Philadelphia, Pa.  
Birmingham, Ala.  
Birmingham, Ala.  
Birmingham, Ala.  
Savannah, Ga.  
Birmingham, Ala.  
Birmingham, Ala.  
Birmingham, Ala.  
San Antonio, Texas  
Farmington, Ark.  
Houston, Texas  
San Antonio, Texas  
Houston, Texas  
Oklahoma City, Okla.  
Oklahoma City, Okla.  
Shreveport, La.  
San Antonio, Texas  
Los Angeles, Calif.  
Lynwood, Calif.  
Pacific Beach, Calif.  
Hollywood, Calif.  
Los Angeles, Calif.  
Los Angeles, Calif.  
Beverly Hills, Calif.  
Los Angeles, Calif.  
Las Vegas, Nev.  
Los Angeles, Calif.  
Hollywood, Calif.

W 6 L R S  
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W 7 F G S  
W 7 F L  
W 7 F M G  
W 7 G G  
W 7 I I  
W 7 S Q  
W 8 A C B  
W 8 A N B  
W 8 A V L  
W 8 D H Q  
W 8 D I  
W 8 D M E  
W 8 E D R  
W 8 G H X  
W 8 K C L  
W 8 L Q T  
W 8 M C J  
W 9 C C K  
W 9 D B Y  
W 9 D M Z  
W 9 E N V  
W 9 G V Y  
W 9 H N R  
W 9 J P J  
W 9 M E L  
W 9 N Y D  
W 9 P N H  
W 9 R B M  
W 9 R C N  
W 9 R R X  
W 9 R Y F  
W 9 S  
W 9 S M F  
W 9 S O O  
W 9 V B F  
W 9 V L M

Ralph F. Koch  
Thomas M. Catish  
Kenneth Price  
Kenneth Strachn  
R. Rex Roberts  
Les Crouter  
Al Eckes  
Frank C. Pratt  
Albert W. Beck  
C. A. Gray  
Geoffrey A. Woodhouse  
F. E. Parker  
Geo. D. Crockett, Sr.  
Sumner W. Ostrom  
James E. Willis  
Raymond Jelinek  
Carl P. Goetz  
E. W. Watton  
Harold C. Whitford  
E. E. Hertz  
Charles J. Heiser  
W. O. Beck  
H. E. Owen  
Charles J. Heiser  
J. H. Melvin  
Albert S. Arkle  
John J. Noonan  
Kenneth G. Alley  
Clarence Kraus  
G. G. Fordyce  
E. O. Schuman  
Geo. E. Herschbach  
F. N. Stephenson  
Harold S. (Mel) Hart  
Elmer Zitzman  
Frank Riggs  
Ernest O. Bertrand  
Darrel C. Priest  
Bob J. Adair  
S. V. Jennings  
Frank Smith  
Albert H. Waters  
Harry V. Eyring  
John Morrall  
Harold Fleshman

Los Angeles, Calif.  
Fresno, Calif.  
San Diego, Calif.  
Billings, Mont.  
Roundup, Mont.  
Butte, Mont.  
Miles City, Mont.  
Tacoma, Wash.  
Big Sandy, Mont.  
Walla Walla, Wash.  
Wolf Creek, Mont.  
Rockport, Wash.  
Milwaukie, Oreg.  
Milwaukie, Oreg.  
Dieringer, Wash.  
Detroit, Mich.  
Hamilton, Ohio  
Rochester, N. Y.  
Hornell, N. Y.  
Cleveland, Ohio  
Auburn, N. Y.  
Toledo, Ohio  
Angola, N. Y.  
Auburn, N. Y.  
Rochester, N. Y.  
Weston, W. Va.  
Chicago, Ill.  
Marion, Ill.  
Kansas City, Kans.  
Waterloo, Iowa  
Chicago, Ill.  
Granite City, Ill.  
Waterloo, Iowa  
Chicago, Ill.  
Roxana, Ill.  
Rockford, Ill.  
Kansas City, Mo.  
Jeffersonville, Ind.  
Midlothian, Ill.  
New Albany, Ind.  
Waterloo, Iowa  
Alton, Ill.  
Kansas City, Mo.  
Chicago, Ill.  
St. Joseph, Mo.

### Canada

V E 3 A H Z Thomas Yates  
V E 3 G K Sid Burnett  
V E 4 E O W. R. Savage  
Beaverdams, Ont.  
Toronto, Ont.  
Lethbridge, Ont.

FRATERNITY GROWS BY COMMUNICATION



workers and a lay-off of several hundred workers precipitated the present strike.

Mass picketing began and prevented the "loyal" employees from going in the gates. Those who came out were prevented from going back in. At this time, the end of February, Mr. Litchfield and a few hundred more have been voluntary prisoners within the gates for nearly two weeks.

The pickets resembled an army on skirmish duty as they patrolled 11 miles of Goodyear property fence, including the Zeppelin dock where the company had crude rubber and finished tires stored. The pickets established posts at the entrances and co-ordinated their efforts. An intelligence service was organized which makes a most effective weapon. Shelter houses were thrown up on the main streets, open fires were lighted with donated coal and the picket lines went unbroken through rain, snow and temperatures as low as 11 degrees below zero.

The voluntary prisoners began to feel the need of coal to keep the boilers going and the food was probably getting low, so the company appealed for an injunction against mass picketing. So for the second time in the history of the county six common pleas judges sat at the hearing. Labor was represented by ex-Judge E. E. Zesiger. Labor concurred in the ruling that coal be taken into the plant. Food was overlooked but is being sent in by mail. Then the injunction was granted the company limiting the number to 10 peaceful pickets at each of the company's 44 main gates.

Mayor Schroy deserves high praise for his co-operation and handling of the city police force. They have been sympathetic to the cause at all times. He adopted a hands off policy in the enforcement of the injunction, as this was clearly the duty of the sheriff. The sheriff posted notices and gave copies to by-standers. The union complied with the injunction limiting the number of pickets to each post and claimed no control over other citizens, and the sheriff was stumped. He appealed to the governor for the national guards. Request was not granted. The sheriff then asked the six judges for advice. The judges referred him to the district attorney, Herman Werner. Mr. Werner said no one was going to enter the plant.

Mr. Litchfield and "loyal-worker" groups made speeches over the radio and in the press. They were answered over the radio stations and by full pages in the press.

Summit County Central Labor Union set up a defense committee to aid strikers and to contact the governor. Governor Davey has never sent troops to any labor dispute and will close the Goodyear entirely in the event he does have to send troops. He is a firm believer in the principle that human rights supersede property rights.

Mr. Litchfield is a very poor hand at making figures lie, for a man who receives \$81,000 a year. In his radio address he said the union represented only 4,000 of his 16,000 employees and by being "outlaws," and by mob rule, keep the others from working. He calls that minority rule. He also claims to have a petition to return to work with 4,800 signatures which he says is majority rule and should be respected by law and order. These 4,800 are composed mostly of salaried and supervisory employees.

Mr. McGrady has been here and tried to effect a settlement but has left after using all his great talent. He was kept waiting for two hours after having made an appointment to discuss the situation with a group of "loyal employees." He leaves behind two of his assistants to act as observers.

Financial aid in substantial amounts has arrived in response to the appeals sent out by the defense committee. The morale of the

strikers is high as they haven't lost sight of the fact that they have a just cause.

National labor leaders have come to give their moral support and assistance. There has been no violence. The Goodyear refuses to negotiate with the workers as long as they picket the plant. The merchants in the strike zone have been very friendly and helpful to the pickets.

In closing wish to say that one of our members, Brother H. B. Blankenship, has very ably assisted on the defense committee.

C. W. MURRAY.

### L. U. NO. 326, LAWRENCE, LOWELL, AND HAVERHILL, MASS.

Editor:

The following is a copy of the program for our second annual memorial pilgrimage to St. Joseph's Mission Church, Salem, N. H., which will be held Saturday, March 14, 1936:

#### LAWRENCE AND LOWELL GAS AND ELECTRIC EMPLOYEES SECOND ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS

The members of Local No. 326, I. B. E. W., and Local No. 19139, A. F. of L., employees of the Lawrence and Lowell Gas and Electric companies, will make their second annual memorial pilgrimage to St. Joseph's Mission Church, Salem, N. H., Saturday, March 14, at 9 a. m.



GEORGE L. "TOMMY" FRAKES  
Card No. 654821

### MISSING MAN

George L. ("Tommy") Frakes, of 1521 Seventh Ave., Huntington, W. Va., an employee of the C. & O. Railroad, shown above, disappeared Saturday, February 8. Age 40, five feet seven inches tall, weighs 127 pounds, has blue eyes, gray hair, and when last seen was wearing a brown suit, overcoat and hat, blue and white shirt, black and white striped tie, brown and white scarf and black shoes. In case of any news notify Huntington, W. Va., Police Department.

Father John J. Boyd, pastor of St. Joseph's Church, will celebrate a solemn high mass of requiem in memory of the employees of the Lawrence Gas and Electric Company and the Lowell Electric Company who have made the supreme sacrifice while in the service of these companies, or who have died while in the employ of these companies.

The employees of the Lawrence Gas and Electric Company who have died in the service of the company are: Patrick Callahan, William Lucy, Jeremiah Donahue, George Gordan, James Coffin and Clement Davis.

The two former employees of the Lawrence Company who were killed in the service of the Salem Electric and Utica Electric will also be prayed for—Chester Kavanaugh and Harry Burke.

Departed employees, Local No. 326, I. B. E. W., and Local No. 19139, A. F. of L.: Joseph Goyette, John Drapeau, George Adams, John Foley, Anson Rix, John McGrath, Andrew Donohue, Eugene Sullivan, James Mansfield, Ira Hill, Thomas McHale, Patrick Murphy, John Dillion, Michael Kelleher, James McNamara, Thomas A. Collins, John Loftus, Walter Adams, Mary O'Brien, Mary Graham, Ruth May Foster, Fred E. Bragdon, Jeremiah Connors, Daniel O'Leary, David Stevens and Eugene Reardon.

Departed Brothers—1935: James McIntosh, Sam Riley and Frederick G. Gough.

The employees of the Lowell Electric Company who died in the service of the Lowell Company are: Joseph Finnegan, Archie McAloon, James Avidson, Amede Marcotte, George W. Lincoln.

At the request of the Lowell members, the names of George Busby and John H. McInnis, a lineman and cable-splicer for the New England Telephone Company, were added to the list of men who died in the service.

Memorial list, Local No. 326, I. B. E. W., employees of Lowell Electric Company:

Killed in service of company—Joseph Finnegan, Archie McAloon, James Avidson, Edward Marcotte.

Deceased employees—Frank Christo, William Baxter, Frank Hogan, Thomas Boyle, M. Rourke, Fred Adsit, Thomas O'Connor, Alec Anderson.

Transportation will be provided. Machines will leave at 8:30 a. m., March 14, from in front of the electric shop on Methuen St., Lawrence, and in front of the Lowell electric office, Market St., Lowell.

List of relatives and friends, Lawrence Gas and Electric and Lowell Electric Company: Roy Shikrallah, Mrs. William Markey, Mrs. Richard Allen, Mrs. McKay, Miss Helen Rowan.

JOHN F. O'NEILL,  
Business Manager.

### L. U. NO. 333, PORTLAND, MAINE

Editor:

After a lapse of many years, your correspondent from Local No. 333, of Portland, Maine, comes to life, drags his pen out of hock and tries to give a few items of interest from out of his head with the slowly departing hair.

Many changes have taken place in the Pine Tree State since a letter from this writer has graced your files. Prohibition has been amended, a Democratic governor elected, and Brother Raymond Benson has passed from a state of single blessedness into the holy bonds of wedlock.

Not much change in the officers of Local No. 333. Brother Phillip Place continues to do a fine job as president; Brother Conroy as secretary; Brother Dimmer as treasurer and Brother James P. Kilmartin, plus a lot of



argument, as vice president. Of the old school is Jimmy, one of the Jones' boys.

Local No. 333 is looking forward to the month of July, 1936, with a great deal of anticipation. The same being its twentieth anniversary. Plans for a big field day with all the trimmings are under way, and if all goes well, judging by the field days held in the past, one wouldn't wonder if some of the boys' first thought the next morning would be about a gallon of tomato juice.

Brother Edward Burke won \$2 from the writer on the Joe Louis-Max Baer slaughter and if the loser lives to be a hundred, he'll never hear the last of it.

If this doesn't bring down too much criticism on the writer of this article, will try again.

RAY E. BONDWAY,  
Recording Secretary.

#### L. U. NO. 349, MIAMI, FLA.

Editor:

##### A Few Lines from the Tropics

Miami is enjoying a splendid winter season, and Miami building tradesmen have enjoyed a splendid building season preparing for it.

Fortunately and happily we are able to share our work with a large number of out-of-town Brothers. We enjoyed having them with us, and wished it could have lasted longer, but good things don't last forever, and right now most of our membership is idle again, waiting for some new work to break loose.

So, don't be misled. The work is all caught up for a while, as it usually is at this time of the year. It is very foolish for a union wireman to come on down here looking for work—when we can, and will, be glad to answer your inquiries first, before you start on a wild goose chase that most likely will end in disappointment.

Brother Dan Sherman, the "high tension" bright light of Detroit, Utica and Miami Beach, is in our midst again, and is showing us natives a thing or two, or three.

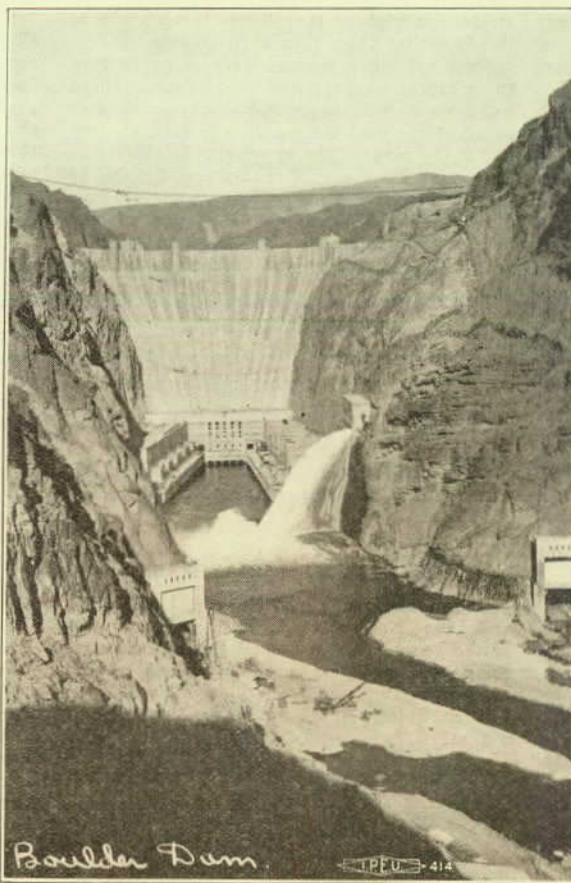
We take great pride in pointing to the prowess of the I. B. E. W. in the greater Miami area electrical officialdom. We are now represented 100 per cent. For quite some time we have been honored by having one of our members in each electrical inspectorship in Miami, and all adjoining cities, but now still greater honor comes to us in that our former business manager, Frank Roche, has been elevated to the position as chief of the electrical division of the city of Miami. This is a very dignified and responsible position, and one which our local union has long cherished for one of our own members. This is the first time in the history of that office that a union man has held this position, and we are sure that our worthy Brother will fill the bill in every respect. He has done much for union labor in Miami and deserves every consideration. No doubt, it has been through his union activities and good standing with the city fathers that he was selected to fill this important position, a reward to which he is justly entitled, and we are proud of him.

CLARENCE O. QUINN.

#### L. U. NO. 354, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

Editor:

Local Union No. 354, Salt Lake City, Utah, has no press secretary, but I feel in the mood to write to the JOURNAL. I'd like to see a write-up from Local Union No. 354 each



THE GREAT DAM IS COMPLETED.

month. Maybe the reason in the past was that our members stay indoors too much, because of the deep snow, and we have plenty of it. But, snow or no snow, the Brothers have had a pretty good winter. Most of the boys are working and it must be a relief for the Mrs. not to have the old man at home all day.

We still lack the old days, when men were in demand, but have hopes of better days this year. I'd like to see everyone on a job.

Brother Bell made us a short visit on request. The request was for our benefit, as we, a small local, cannot afford a business agent, so of course Brother Bell could run down and do a little work for this local. Don't know yet whether to praise him or cuss him for his efforts, but time will tell.

How about talking a convention this year? And a surprise to all, come to Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 24, 1936. I'm sure you all know we have beautiful scenery—city, mountain, mining, industrial, silver, copper, coal and, not to be overlooked, pretty women.

We are not like California—you can come to Utah.

SCRIBE.

#### L. U. NO. 357, BOULDER CITY, NEV.

Editor:

Ye scribe has been accused by our worthy president, Brother Malot, of "laying down" on the job, but my last letter brought such a flood of letters that our business manager, Brother Brannan, was snowed under.

Work is well under way now at the Boulder Dam power plant, and the installation of machinery has started. One of the 3,000-k.v.a. house units will be placed in operation soon to supply power to the dam and Boulder City. The first four 115,000-horsepower turbines are practically installed.

G. E. have the rotor of their first unit completely assembled and have started on the second. As yet, the stators of these two generators have not arrived from the factory, but it is understood they will come in four sections, with the windings in place, except for the split, and will be assembled in place. Mr. Thompson, of G. E., has a crew of junior engineers doing the work.

Westinghouse have their first generator practically assembled, ready for installation, and are starting on the second. The Westinghouse stators come in four sections with the coils in one section only, and the balance of the winding is done on the assembly floor of the power house. Mr. Berkeley, of the Westinghouse Co., has a mixed crew of factory and local men doing the work.

Allis Chalmers have started the assembly of their 40,000-k.v.a. generator. The rotor of this generator was assembled at the factory, and was slightly damaged when the car overturned en route to the power house. Allis Chalmers are also furnishing the main circuit breakers for the large generators. These circuit breakers are something out of the ordinary, being totally enclosed metal-clad switchgear, motor operated and rated 2,500,000-k.v.a. interrupting capacity at 23 k.v. They are part of the main 23 k.v. bus structure, built by the I. T. E. Circuit Breaker Co. This bus is likewise metal clad, and is composed of two six-inch copper channels mounted to form a hollow square conductor. These buses run entirely from the generator terminals to the transformer terminals.

Construction of the Pioche power line from Boulder Dam to the Pioche mining district has been readvertised for bids. The materials contracts, however, were awarded. Brother Laux made a trip to Pioche recently to confer with officials on the hiring of union labor from Local No. 357.

A. D. ("DEL") ANDERSON.

#### L. U. NO. 382, COLUMBIA, S. C.

Editor:

Self-preservation being one of the first laws of nature, I take my pen in hand to write a few lines to our wonderful JOURNAL. My good friend "Hard Rock" Johnnie Rivers, has threatened me with every kind of bodily harm if I fail to have something in the March issue of the JOURNAL. So-o-o-o, Mr. Editor, please be kind to my letter. We have no sick benefit clause in effect here at present and I fear the worst if you or I should fail.

The weather has been ideal for Eskimos down here since Christmas, and what WPA and PWA jobs we have started have been delayed considerably. But surely spring must be coming for I have noticed that Brother M. C. White has left his overcoat at home for the past three mornings. That is all I know about it but it is a mighty good sign.

After a long, long time our agreement committee has been successful and has all the largest contractors signed up at \$1 for each and every hour, 40 hours per week. Look out, little fishes, here we come! With a 40-hour workweek, we can get two days fishing per week. We have considerable work coming up and we hope to have all the boys working soon. But we have plenty of men loafing to take care of it.

I notice by this evening's paper that one William R. Hearst would lead us to believe that the Johnnie Rebels of the 1860's have in 1936 turned bolshevik down here in our



dear old Southland. All of which is baloney in six delicious flavors, raspberry, strawberry, orange, lemon and lime.

C. T. GARTMAN.

#### L. U. NO. 474, MEMPHIS, TENN.

Editor:

Another letter from a local in the "sunny South." Yeal Sunny, my eye; it has snowed in Memphis four times so far this winter and the temperature down as low as five above up to 12 and 15 above, when the people of this part of the country are accustomed to a temperature of 30 or 32 degrees.

Really, there is not much to say at this time but if there is not something in the JOURNAL often Local No. 474 gives this press secretary plenty tongue—and I mean plenty!

Our working agreement comes up this month, which I think will be renewed without any trouble whatever. It seems from what I gather the contractors are fairly well satisfied.

Fair warning to the floaters who read the JOURNAL, there is no work here for them as we have plenty of local boys to take care of—also, to the floaters, this local cannot do you any good as far as TVA is concerned.

At present there are four local boys on TVA. And this local can furnish 40 to 50 men if we are able to talk the master minds into working a few of them, but old man Alibi is always hanging around their desks. They may not know it, but he is a pain in the neck to Local No. 474. What about it, TVA officials?

I want to take this means of telling John Miller Electric Company that the boys of L. U. No. 474 really appreciated and enjoyed working on the Fisher Body job recently. It was short and sweet. May you have more work in Memphis before the year rolls by.

Have received several letters from Brothers over the United States and Canada. Glad to hear from them or any others who care to. (It takes 3 cents.)

R. B. BAKER,  
"Memphis-on-the-Mississippi."

#### L. U. NO. 500, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Editor:

The writer was absent at the regular meeting, January 2, due to being out of the city, but our regular meeting held Thursday, January 16, was one of those go-get-'em kind, due to the presence of our esteemed vice president of the seventh district, Brother W. L. Ingram, who gave us a wonderful talk on the El Paso strike situation, where as usual the Wall Street bunch is trying to pull some fast ones. In addition, we were given the low-down on a lock-out here in our own San Antonio, at Radio Station KABC, affecting some of the members of the radio section of Local No. 60, of this city. Two of the affected Brothers were present with Brother Ingram to give us the facts and outline their program of future procedure in the lock-out. That the radio section of Local No. 60 will get the whole-hearted support of L. U. No. 500 in this fight for their rights, was the unanimous opinion of the Brothers present, individually and collectively, from President N. Roberson to the youngest member.

There have been some wise cracks taken in these columns at our present chief executive and his New Deal. Well, Brothers, look around you, those who are dissatisfied, and try to scrape the cobwebs out of the haze of pre-New Deal days. What kind of a break did union labor get up until this administration? We feel in this section we have a real he-man in there putting up a real fight for the laboring man, and we believe in him 100 per cent. Let's all give him our support

### Past Events Seen Through Memory's Spectacles

By JAMES H. PALMER, L. U. No. 5

In a late issue of the WORKER, Brother Frank Ormsby has written to ask you to have union men to write short, true stories of their experiences. Not a bad idea. Enclosed find a copy of an experience of mine.

In the April, 1935, issue of the ELECTRICAL WORKERS' JOURNAL, I became very much interested in an article, "The Lighting Master." I had a little experience along that line. A few years ago in the day room the business agent (Mr. Abe Bovard, now pensioned and living in Cleveland the last I heard of him) called me and said, "Jim, you go down and report to Mr. Martin Fox, at the Grand Opera House. He is a member of the Theatrical Stage Employees." I went and reported.

He said, "Jim, this is a five-cent theatre." I said, "Where are they going to get actors?" He said, "You know the picture they put on over at the Avenue for the last act?" (A vaudeville house run by Harry Davis, the greatest showman that ever came down the pike.) I said, "Yes." "Well, Davis saw one in Kansas City in a park." We started to build "nickelodeons" and if you got in the road of a "buffalo" tramping in you would get blessed. The San Francisco earthquake picture was a great attraction and a money maker.

One day Fox and the super came to me. They had a large horn phonograph and a song record and a film of a dancing girl. Fox said to me, "Jim, can we get these to run together?" I looked the apparatus over as I had only studied a course in electric power in the International Correspondence Schools. We decided to run a return call buzzer from the picture machine to back of the curtain and place a porter in charge so he could run the phonograph on signal from the picture machine operator. The next thing I knew out in front of the theatre was a large sign, "The Greatest Sensation of the Age—Talking Motion Pictures." The nickels came rolling in but the people soon got wise as at times the porter would go to sleep. The picture would fade away and the girl would still be singing.

The lighting master was a great baseball fan. Never missed a New York-Pittsburgh game, as he was a great admirer of McGraw. I was wise to him. When the super would come around and ask for Fox I would answer, "He just left here a minute ago." The super got wise and bawled Martin out. The super said to Martin, "That man Jim of yours only knows one song. When I ask for you he sings 'He only left here a minute ago.'" Martin told me I had to learn another song. He gave me strict orders to take no orders from anyone but him. Thereafter I would sing, "I don't know."

The lighting master gave me orders to work on two old store rooms near the corner of Seventh Avenue and Smithfield Street, one a penny arcade and the other a moving picture house. I got orders to run molding and place a receptacle every three feet around the wall of the penny arcade about two feet from the floor. A large sign was delivered with holes cut out, "Bijou Dream." I asked Martin what receptacle I would use. He said, "Wait a minute." He left and went down to Doubleday-Hill Co. He came back with a receptacle that we would have to cut two holes in the tin and bolt them on. He said, "Let it go for a day or so, maybe I can get something better." A day or so afterward he came back with a drawing on a piece of paper and asked, "Do you think that will work?" I said, "Nothing to hinder it." He went and ordered 5,000 of a company and when they came on them was "Patent applied for." Martin did not get snow water for the idea.

The day of the opening came. They brought in about 50 penny slot machines and connected them with an extension plug. The super hired a man to maintain them. I thought that was a place for an L. U. No. 5 man. The show was ready to go but the machines would not run. The maintenance man did not know what was the matter. Davis, the super, and Fox were trying to get the show going. Davis said to the super in front of Fox, "Go over and ask Jim what the trouble is." The super answered, "If I go he'll only sing the one song he knows, 'I don't know.'" That tickled Fox. He came to me and asked, "Jim, do you know what is wrong?" I said, "Yes." He asked me to fix it. I said I was not doing non-union men's work for them. He asked me what I would do. I said if they would place one of my men as a maintenance man I would fix the machines so they would work. They agreed. I was then in the midst of my studies in regards to a.c. and d.c. motors. I told them the machines were built for d.c. current and we had only a.c. I got orders to run a line a few blocks over the roofs of buildings. It gave the boys about seven hours work and L. U. No. 5 a maintenance man. The super was sore. He asked Fox, "Where did that man, Jim, come from?" Fox came and told me. I sent word back, "I was born and raised in Cone-maugh, Pa., and was in the Johnstown flood. In floating down the river on a roof I came in sight of Pittsburgh. The town looked good to me. I jumped off and landed in Pittsburgh, and here I am." After that the super was sore and when I passed him he was always counting stars.

The lighting master gave me orders to wire a basement at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Smithfield Street for a dollar hat store. Davis was having the Grand Opera House (lately burned) rebuilt at that time. Carter Electric Co. had the electrical work. James E. Bown was superintendent. I needed a piece of two-inch conduit. I went scouting. The Grand was only two doors away. As soon as I appeared at the Grand, Bown let a yell out, "Watch Jim; he needs a feeder conduit!" I got the two inch. The next week the Giants played in Pittsburgh, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

On Wednesday, Fox gave me orders that Davis wants to open Saturday noon. He went up to the union and hired four stews. Friday came. I knew where the lighting master would be. At noon after lunch the four stews showed up loaded to the eyes. Andy acted as spokesman. He said, "Jim, we are going to the ball game." I said, "You are not. You are going to work tonight as long as you can stand!" They went to the ball game. The next morning I surely got blessed. I told Fox, "I am done tonight." He asked me, "What is the trouble?" I answered, "I think I am blessed enough. I am tired of working stews. And last, I cannot see any future in the hat business as people are going nutty and discarding hats." He said, "Jim, you are going nutty." I agreed with him and went to work at Dream City Park, near Wilkinsburgh. There I met the big stew, a hill-billy from West Virginia as a lighting master.



and fight with him for greater, bigger and better wages and working conditions and collective bargaining laws.

Brother Bill Loftin has had quite a siege of sickness by by latest reports he is up and around, although he has not reported for work.

The San Antonio Trades Council is giving a President Roosevelt birthday ball, January 30, which has the whole-hearted support of this local, as we feel he is doing a wonderful work over the United States, helping crippled children as well as others, and sincerely hope this will be the biggest and best birthday party in this country ever attempted in his behalf.

J. W. HUTCHINGS,

San Antonio, where the sunshine spends the winter.

Editor:

We haven't been very active in this column for the past few months, so we just couldn't let this opportunity to break back into the news slip by.

We of Local No. 500, on Thursday, February 20, took ourselves to our hall and there we were given some valuable information on this loan-shark whipping organization, the credit union, very ably given by a post office employee, treasurer of the credit union for

postal employees of San Antonio, A. Anderson. Many questions were asked and were clearly answered. We thank him very much.

Brothers, we don't know how much you know about loan sharks and we are not personally acquainted with any of them and don't want to be. But the credit union is doing more to put that ever-grasping, blood-drawing monster out of business than any other organization now existing. May we suggest that you Brothers who might doubt this obtain a copy of the Reader's Digest for September, 1935, and read, on page 9, the article, "Be Your Own Banker." It certainly is worth considering. After the meeting a smoker with refreshments was given and the evening was a complete success. There weren't as many Brothers present as we had hoped would be; however, since there are at present a number of Brothers off the job, sick with cold, "flu," and other winter ailments, we had a pretty fair showing.

We were very sorry to hear that Brother Bell was injured while on duty last week. Brothers Armstrong, Anderson, Berg, Mealer and Dillon were ill and we are glad to see them on the job again.

Here's one more small matter we would like to suggest at this time: We know there is plenty of talent in Local No. 500 to enable us to start a glee club. We have quite a few

who can whistle, sing, play wash boards (not at home), harmonica, guitar, piano, accordion, jew's-harp, jug, and what have you. Now wouldn't it be fine if we could get some of those Brothers together and at a gathering blow off a little? All right, all right! That's an idea for a good old union entertainment. So, if we can get together on this, all right, all right, let's.

The sun still shines and we have a sunny outlook for the rest of the year. So, let's try to get the credit union working and let's discuss that glee club idea. What do you think? So, until next month, adios!

FOWLER.

#### L. U. NO. 567, PORTLAND, MAINE

Editor:

Making our third appearance in three consecutive months certainly established an all-time record for me, but whether our monthly editor and his staff consider that such a matter of importance as I do remains to be determined by whether he puts a taboo sign on it or not.

To be candid about it, I suppose since my appendix decided to suddenly violate all rules and regulations within its jurisdiction and pile up more complications, I have had, without any question, plenty of time



Crew at work on the California Pacific International Exposition with all men with a union card from L. U. No. 569, excepting some of the drafting and engineering staff who got in the picture. About 25 or 30 members who were working on the job did not get in the picture. 1. F. D. Hauser, electrical superintendent for C. P. I. E. and executive board member; 2. Wm. B. Smith, city electrical inspection department member; 3. E. E. Shaffer, city electrical inspection department member; 4. S. V. Monsees, president; L. U. No. 569; 5. Claude Cyren, executive board member; 6. A. H. Johnson, executive board member; 7. Herbert Ogden, executive board member; 8. M. L. Ratcliff, business manager and financial secretary, L. U. No. 569; 9. C. S. Harper, director of works, C. P. I. E.; 10. Walter S. Graham, assistant superintendent, C. P. I. E.; 11. H. H. Bartor, electrical engineer, C. P. I. E.



to do most anything; but we find with experience that hospitals don't give these jobs away as first prize, or a payoff, and I got so financially flattened that best intentions to write don't seem to conform to the vast amount of time in stock, and the uncertainty of working again doesn't seem to be any bright spot.

I am taking this occasion to suggest diplomatically to the powers that control the I. B. E. W. that it seems only fitting and proper that they help me out a little on my hospital expenses, because when my wife rushed me all the way in there in the middle of the night, didn't she save them a \$1,000? Anything will be appreciated. Send all donations, etc.

Once more, and for the third time, we wish to assert the success we have enjoyed in the methods we are using to collect money from unfortunate Brothers who have for various reason dropped in arrears in their financial status with our local and again we'll dish it out, and it's on a silver platter, Brother locals:

"Assess each member earning in excess of \$20 per week 10 per cent of the weekly pay, or a minimum of \$1, to apply on his back indebtedness to the local." The minimum can, of course, be adjusted to various conditions. Simple, but you'll think the money changers are in operation in your own local if you let down the bars.

Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins recently spoke to a Colby College Institute at Waterville, Maine, and portrayed both business and labor as on a rising curve, attributing the economic upsurge to administration measures. She said that the December weekly payroll for industries, surveyed by the department, showed an increase of 50 per cent since the low point of the depression in 1933. While American wage earners have made net gains, that production, farm income, profits and dividends have also shown a rising curve, and banks, insurance companies and railroads are in a much stronger economic position. Labor policy in a democracy, Miss Perkins said, was not a program conceived by the government, but one which wage earners and employers must work out together. The function of the government was to serve as a stimulating agent to facilitate the foundation of a just and fair policy to all.

Then a few nights later we listened to a radio broadcast by ex-President Hoover, speaking to a Lincoln Club dinner in Washington state, and if we are to believe his message it seems to discount heavily all that the present administration would, through equally dependable agencies, convince us they have done.

We can only refer to Quoddy in an occasional manner, this time, inasmuch as there is a big question as to whether proper provision of the balance of the \$36,000,000 will be available to finish the gigantic tide-water project.

Recently Lieutenant Colonel Philip B. Fleming, the engineer in charge of Quoddy construction, appeared before the Woodfords Club of Portland and lightly passed over in his interesting speech one of the difficulties to be encountered in the Quoddy construction. He noted that the dams are to be built in a tidal current of six feet per second velocity, or a fractional part of over four miles per hour. This current, changing direction every six hours, is something of importance. When it is increased, once the bases of the dams are in, to between 20 and 24 feet per second, or nearly four times, a water velocity of 16 miles per hour.

Many wondered what Colonel Fleming meant by "priming," other than a pump

storage basin. It might be possible, he explained, to enter into a deal with existing hydro electric companies in Maine to provide the power. Engineers will know what this means, but the layman will find it a bit out of order to draw power from other hydro electric stations to prime one of the biggest power developments in the country.

Colonel Fleming created a very favorable impression, and possibly may be prevailed upon to come again and address a larger audience, and possibly sell Quoddy to Portland, where there has been more or less indifference to the entire project.

M. M. McKENNEY.

#### L. U. NO. 595, OAKLAND, CALIF.

Editor:

There appeared on the bulletin board of Local No. 595, I. B. E. W., about January 1, 1936, the following bulletin: "On Sunday, January 26, 1936, there will be a birthday party, in honor of Jerry Tylor's seventy-first birthday. All old timers are requested to be present. Address, 4128 Brookdale Ave."

The publicity of this event went far and wide and in a radius of 100 miles every old timer was aware a good old time get-together event was about to be staged.

On January 24, Jerry and Bill Smart drove around to my home to make me promise I would be there, and on the eventful date I dropped in at about 3 p. m. and the following were there: Mr. and Mrs. E. I. Durrell, 2398 East Twenty-seventh Street, Oakland; Mr. and Mrs. A. Beyers, 2601 High Street; Norma and Robby Evans, Tracy, Calif.; Jeroise Brown; Thomas Meech, 39919 Lyon Avenue; Frank Hickey, 1644 Revere Avenue, San Francisco; W. C. Ross, better known as Charley Ross, 242 Powell, San Francisco; Adam Wagner, better known as Cal Wagner, 20 Twelfth Street, San Francisco; Jerry Tylor, 71 years young; Rose Tylor, beloved wife of Jerry; Jack A. Steele; C. G. Wibbeck and wife; C. F. Cooper; J. D. Soares, 2213 San Antonio Avenue, Alameda; W. E. Brothers, City Hall, Berkeley; William Smart, 4128 Brookdale; Julian Kubola, 28A Richmond Avenue, San Francisco; D. H. Truax, 2260 Alameda Avenue, Alameda; Barney Weibore, better known as Barney the Boar, 376 Oak Street, San Francisco; Jerry Donahue, 4701 Fairfax, Oakland; Frank Nelson, Local No. 151; Telley Brasseur, 66 Wanda Street, San Francisco, Local No. 537; Stewart A. Woolsey, L. U. No. 595; Gene Gaillac, of L. U. No. 595, and Betty Gaillac; Bill Schnohr, L. U. No. 595, and Mother Schnohr; Joe E. Gillette; Mrs. S. A. Woolsey; Charles F. Butler; W. R. Evans, Tracy, Calif.

There were four of us who were members of the U. O. L. It was a wonderful old timers' get-together and reminded us of the days when our electrical workers' badge was an emblem of brotherly love.

Jerry and his good wife, Rose, had spread a huge table in the back yard, laden with all the "goodies" one could imagine that would be appropriate for such a distinguished gathering. At about three o'clock the party settled down for lunch. But an atmosphere of suspicion interlarded with the perfect bliss of the occasion. Jerry was looking black. In his hand was a bottle he had taken from the table. He looked meaningfully at one of the old timers and observed, "Telley Brasseur, someone has been drinking out of this bottle."

"Indeed," replied Telley, in no way perturbed.

"Yes, and I'm wondering whether you know anything about it?"

"Well, I'll take me oath it wasna me," retorted Telley.

"Are you quite sure of that?"

"Oh, aye; I cudna get the cork out."

We were all shocked to think an old cable-splicer would be suspicioned of such an unpardonable breach of ethics.

On the opposite side of the street from Jerry's, the city has a park and tennis court, horseshoe games and other attractions, and numerous machines park along the street to witness the games.

Bill Smart, Charley Ross and old Cal Wagner walked out in front. They reported that there was a colored man and wife and little boy stopped to see the game. The man got out of the machine and stood looking and the boy crawled between his legs. He struck the little fellow and said, "Get back in that car, Electricity; what I tell you about gettin' out?" Charley Ross said to the fellow, "Say, what do you call the boy Electricity for?" "Well," the father said, "My name is Mose, my wife's name is Dina, and Dina-Mose makes Electricity." This little episode nearly wrecked the "eats."

Mrs. Tylor came out of the house, woman style, to get an ear full. She brought with her a great big cocoanut cake, and gave each one of us a big generous helping. Now wasn't that something?

This was a wonderful gathering. There were a goodly number of each craft—linemen, cable-splicers and insidemen—and there wasn't a jurisdictional squabble. All the boys got along just sweet together. They got so they would eat ice cream out of each other's dish, like good boys.

I walked up to the house to see what was going on up there, and here were the ladies at the back windows, watching the boys eat their ice cream and cake and they were all worrying that the boys might get the stomach ache and wondering if they would have to drive the car home.

When the shadows began to get long, the boys were getting in the happy spirits. Someone suggested that the mixed quartet sing a song. First tenor was to be a lineman, one who could reach high C. For this part, Barney Wiebore was selected. Second tenor was to be an inside man, who couldn't get quite so high as the first tenor. This part was given to Bill Schnohr. Now the baritone was one who was not able to get as high as the second tenor, one who was able to get up a little but better at getting down a little. This part was given to Ernest Durrell. And the basso profundo, who goes down into the bowels of the earth, was given to Joe Gillette, the cable-splicer. Now that the quartet was duly picked, the song was the next thing to be decided on, and the Bottle Cry of the Republic won out—"Sweet Adeline."

I overheard another remark that I will have to tell about. W. E. Brothers was talking to two of the old timers, Jack Steele and Frank Nelson. They were speaking of Frank Hickey. Jack made the remark to the Brothers, "Hickey is getting awfully wrinkled in his forehead." Nelson broke in with, "That is an advantage. His hat won't blow off so easily; he can screw it on."

We, the guests of Jerry, want to pay our respects by wishing him many happy returns of the day. May God grant you the right to live a long life with your beloved wife, Rose—

"In that dearest little cottage,  
Nestled back among the trees,  
That shade a lovely garden  
Full of birds and honey bees.

"They are singing to the flowers,  
That are growing all around,  
And a sweeter little spot on earth  
Has never yet been found.

"And in that little cottage  
All is peace and free from care;  
There is no room for trouble,  
For love is master there.



"There are lights so soft and lovely,  
Near a cozy, comfy chair,  
With a fire in the fireplace,  
And Rose beside you there.

"And as you sit and listen  
To the love song low and sweet,  
You are lifted to the heights of joy,  
Where only hearts can meet.

"You have found that little cottage, Jerry,  
Where contentment reigns supreme;  
Thank God you know it's Heaven,  
And not a visionary dream."

From the whole gang to you, Jerry.

TOM MEECH.

#### L. U. NO. 625, HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

Editor:

Just completed reading "correspondence" and find there isn't a letter from Canada's side of the line, so will see that it doesn't happen this month.

Conditions in Halifax are not much changed in the last two years; work is plenty scarce, but the union holds as good as ever. Brother Conrad, our president and business manager, fills the post particularly well. He enjoys straightening out our troubles and takes an active part in Trades and Labor Council affairs in Halifax.

Building has a more cheerful look here for spring. We have two government buildings tied up for the winter, but these together with the regular summer work should give us our first good summer in the last four years.

Just reading Brother Schilt's (Local No. 713) letter, re the lawsuit against Local No. 3. Moral support should be given Local No. 3 against these companies to have this suit withdrawn. All our unions are in a position to give them such support wherever we are, because we are every day handling some of their products or dealing with one of their branches. We have a branch of one of the companies here that has all it can do to get its share of the business without a boycott.

Local No. 3 is missing a great chance to solicit sympathy by not giving us a summary of their lawsuit through this paper, if they haven't already done so.

Will some of the Brothers in writing give us some idea of how labor struggles are progressing in the United States and Canada, particularly Canadian unions? Labor in Canada and the United States has a great struggle for existence on its hands, the speed of which is likely to be increased in 1936, and anything relating to same should be of interest to the Brothers.

It is up to us as labor men not only in union interests but in the interest of all labor to combine our strength for the common good of all, for if we don't we are likely to find ourselves in the position of our brothers of Germany and Italy, and there aren't any of us who want to live under conditions of such restricted freedom.

C. VAN BUSKIRK.

#### L. U. NO. 702, ZONE B, DANVILLE-CHAMPAIGN, ILL.

Editor:

It has been sometime since Zone B, L. U. No. 702, has been heard from, but we are still on the job here in spite of the many obstacles that have been placed before us. The latest complaint here in Danville was the framing, and not in a picture, of Brother Ed Hethrington of our bus barn. He is accused of faulty work, and was dismissed from service for an indefinite period. Of course it would not seem odd to you, would

it, that this dismissal was accomplished 10 days after the alleged faulty work was executed. Brother Ed did not receive a hearing, nor was he given any notice ahead of the time of his dismissal.

You notice I said in the foregoing paragraph that this was our latest complaint, and it is one of many, some of major importance and some of minor importance, but all leading to the conclusion that the Utility Operators Association does not intend, and will not, live up to the contract negotiated and signed on the fifth day of June, 1935. On page one, paragraph two, of this mutual contract it says: "The employer and Brotherhood have a mutual interest in the electric industry and desire to effectuate harmonious working arrangements for the adjustment by rational common sense methods of any and all differences that may hereafter arise, to the end that the public may be assured of continuous and uninterrupted utility services."

Now, we ask you, does the discharge of union men, without good reason, the lay-off of men with years of seniority, the coercion of some of our employees, this failure to live up to agreements reached in our recent arbitration, and many other breaches of the contract too numerous to mention in the pages of the WORKER, constitute a rational common sense method to bring about harmony between men and company? We all know your answer, for there is only one right answer to that question.

I notice as I read the local paper today that the El Paso union of the I. B. E. W. has gone on a strike in protest of lay-offs, etc., and all power to them in their efforts to bring about the right kind of treatment, that an honest, hard-working union man deserves. I also heard a radio news commentator say this evening that power in the El Paso section had been restored, the power house and equipment being manned by "loyal" employees. Well, we all have a different name for them than that. Don't we?

I could go on and on telling about the dark things in this section, but I guess I have said enough to let you know what we are up against up here. It is now nearing the anniversary of our first strike of April 2, 1935, and I hope we don't have to celebrate its birthday on a picket line behind a coke oven, but then you never can tell about these spring storms, they come all of a sudden.

I hope that at the next writing I will be able to write that the offending side in this mix-up has seen the light of day and has decided to play ball fairly.

H. L. HUGHES.

#### L. U. NO. 723, FORT WAYNE, IND.

Editor:

About the time these lines appear in print the citizens of a certain rural community in Indiana will be using electricity in their homes for the first time. I am referring to Boone County, Ind., where construction started on January 9 on nearly 500 miles of power lines which will carry electricity to 1,600 farm homes.

All this is in connection with the federal government's program of rural electrification being carried out in every state in the union. In Indiana this work is under the guiding hand of the Rural Electric Membership Corporation, a \$60,000,000 concern sponsored by the Indiana Farm Bureau with headquarters at Indianapolis and granted a charter by the public service commission of this state to deal in electric light and power. Each county has the privilege of forming a unit, which is to become a part of the statewide R. E. M. C. after local interested parties

have secured the indorsement of a majority of the prospective users of electricity in said county. County units are to receive engineering information, etc., from the R. E. M. C. The power, it is planned, will be bought at wholesale from existing power companies.

Whether or not these county units are to suffer similar abuses at the hands of the Rural Electric Membership Corporation as those imposed upon some operating companies under huge holding groups remains to be seen. Considering the interests of the hundreds of hard-working farm housewives throughout the state of Indiana, it is hoped that the Rural Electric Membership Corporation will be honestly administered.

AARON SCHARLACH.

#### L. U. NO. 761, GREENFIELD, MASS.

Editor:

On a certain day in January, 1935, a bright idea was formed in the minds of a small group of red-blooded linemen, who, knowing that their work was more hazardous than any other field of trade work and that their work should be appreciated by the Western Massachusetts Electric Company officials, by whom they are employed, asked for an adjustment of wages and a better understanding of safety measures in line construction.

From the able assistance and instruction of Brother Charles T. Keaveney, international vice president of this district, and our ever-welcome Brother, Walter J. Kenefick, special representative from the International Office in this district, a charter was obtained and issued to this little group of outside wire fixers on March 14, 1935, at Greenfield, Mass.—a small town of approximately 17,000 inhabitants, located in the western part of the state of Massachusetts. Consequently, Mr. Editor, we consider our Local No. 761 a baby unit in the gigantic forces of the I. B. E. W. From that small group who stood firm and fast together, aloof from pressure and tactics used by the company to discourage organization, and through the tireless efforts and co-operation of Brother Kenefick, from Springfield, Mass., who spent many hours with us during those trying days, through kind advice and encouragement, a closer understanding was formed between the men and the company.

Our membership was gradually growing. A grievance committee was formed and requested Brother Kenefick to act as our chairman to confer with the officials of our company. His insistent efforts brought about an adjustment of wages and a better understanding in safety work.

Our first president of the local, Brother Paul Henshaw, now passed away, was a tireless worker for our local, a true friend, a Brother to all mankind, who had a bright future in unionism, but was taken from us by being electrocuted while on duty, a few months after we had obtained our charter. We felt this terrible loss keenly, and those who had been his buddies working on the other side of the stick with him felt his death sharply. His loss brought to the minds of many employees of the company the safeguard of organization, so we are pleased to say that our membership is growing rapidly.

Now, Mr. Editor, this being my first correspondence to your wonderful magazine, and as I have been requested to write a few lines to let the rest of the organizations know what a small town group of linemen can accomplish through organization, I hope you will print this letter in the March issue of your magazine, as it is the month of our first anniversary in the I. B. E. W. Being a new correspondent and in the hope of someday becoming a writer in the same class as Bachie or the Duke, I am happy to say I was



one of the old time fixers whose stick walking days took him to distant states, who crumbed up in many jungles and whose soft beds were boxcars rattling along, using the old hooks for a pillow and a ready answer to the gruff, "Well, what are you riding on?" and whose Reid and Murphy ticket came in mighty handy, but those happy days will be discussed in future correspondence.

Mr. Editor, may I be permitted to make a suggestion? I would like to say that I think that contributions to your columns should be designated by a symbol showing whether the locals are of inside wiremen, linemen, telephone or railroad.

I guess it is time that I dead-ended this letter and hollered "Tie!" "WEST,"  
Business Manager.

#### L. U. NO. 846, CHATTANOOGA, TENN.

Editor:

Geographically speaking, few electrical workers in these United States are so directly in the spotlight of public opinion as those of us now employed in the Tennessee Valley, whether for private enterprise or for the government.

It is for this reason that I feel it necessary that you should know that we of L. U. No. 846 are still alive, even though we have been in a state of hibernation—no "gag"—for various reasons.

Suddenly an idea struck us, and that idea was this: To hold a mass meeting for the purpose of getting the electrical workers better acquainted, and to endeavor to work together more closely for our common cause, to the workers' interest.

After planning out the details of such an affair, here is a summary of our meeting held at the Labor Hall, Saturday, February 1, at 8 p. m.:

The meeting was opened by our good president, Brother P. B. ("Poor Boy") Trew, who extended the appreciation of our local to visiting delegates.

The first speaker of the evening was Brother Joe Dobbs, president of the Chattanooga Trades and Labor Council, his theme being "buy union and live union."

Next was Brother Grover Waldrup, a 100 per cent union foreman of the TVA. Then came a few words from Brother Staley, recording secretary of L. U. No. 835, Jackson, Tenn., and believe you me, he has vim and vigor. Introduced next was Recording Secretary Hinson, of Nashville, who told a good joke and declared he was a better listener than a speaker, and then retired to a quiet place to listen.

I must say that at this time our president, who was giving an introduction, became a little warm under the collar, but finally gained enough self-control to introduce Business Manager L. O. Petree, from L. U. No. 558, Florence, Ala., who expressed his willingness to co-operate in every way possible to further the cause of organizing the electrical workers in the Tennessee Valley Basin.

Next in line was Business Manager J. W. Driver, Local No. 136, Birmingham, Ala. His talk centered around the argument that, "believe it or not," Birmingham was in the Tennessee Valley, and this argument was justly stated, for only by complete co-operation between all the locals in the South, can we hope to attain standards of living necessary for any self-respecting worker.

The next three Brothers on the program were President Halliburton, of Local No. 852, Corinth, Miss.; President Eaton, of Local No. 84, Atlanta, Ga., and Business Manager Loftis, of Local No. 429, Nashville, Tenn., who relinquished the floor to the two principal speakers of the evening.

Everyone was delighted to hear Brother O. A. Walker's name called as the next speaker for, believe you me, he is one International Representative who can make a rat turn pale around the gills and a union man feel proud of his association with the I. B. E. W. He concluded his most interesting talk with this avowed conclusion: "Wherever the electrical workers' interests lie, whether backed by government or private enterprise, at that exact place you will find the I. B. E. W. and all its power, exerting unending pressure for the betterment of the electrical workers." Who could ask for more?

The final speaker was none other than Business Manager Tom Elder, of Local No. 84, Atlanta, Ga., who delivered a wonderful speech, in which he set forth the principles involved in organizing and staying organized. He clearly stated that honest work and hard work by every individual union man is absolutely essential if we are to cope with the powerful organizations set up by big business, and the policy of selfishness and greed, which is ever a dominant factor maintained by them.

After hearing these oldtimers of the labor movement, I am sure every man at that meeting felt like patting himself on the back for merely being present.

Next, we all relaxed and adjourned to another hall for refreshments, and may I say here and now I believe everyone enjoyed the eats and fine coffee so ably prepared by none other than Financial Secretary D. E. ("Dick") Clark, and Executive Board Member L. D. ("Luke") Stroud.

I truly believe that this kind of meeting should be most beneficial to any local, for it stimulated interest and makes one realize that all union people wherever they may be, are striving for one cause only—everything that is worthwhile for the workers' interest.

Please pardon me for such a long article, but really I am in the mood, so here's to more "get-acquainted" mass meetings!

W. A. HARRISON,  
Recording Secretary.

#### L. U. NO. 948, FLINT, MICH.

Editor:

Back again after a long absence, but why not?

After reading the correspondence of the February issue one feels several of the correspondents need to be criticized quite severely.

Mackay, of L. U. No. 526, says in part, "Our Constitution is the supreme law of our country," in reference to the decision handed down pertaining to the AAA.

We grant him that statement is true, but now let us go a little farther. The interpretation of said Constitution is something that would indeed tax the minds of scholars of ancient or modern times.

Had the Supreme Court been composed of nine such illustrious men as the late Justice Holmes, how do you suppose the measures held unconstitutional would have been found? There is but one answer.

The human element enters into all these decisions, whether right or wrong. Right, of course, as each individual sees it.

By the vein of your letter, Mac, it seems you take great delight in seeing all laws, whether of the nation or your own lovely state, declared unconstitutional. I wonder why?

And now Bachie, of Atlantic City, in regard to his comment on Al Smith when he says, "A few more speeches like his of January 25 and the Republican Party will have a push-over next November."

Now seriously, Bachie, you know since you seem to be well read that in the weeks following that speech all straw vote polls showed Roosevelt strength stronger by about 7 per cent.

I agree with you that the said Republican Party will have a push-over next November, but where will they be pushed and who will do the pushing? I say, our friend, F. D. R.

Your writer believes Huneven, of L. U. No. 418, should have some sort of praise for his entry of last month and I would be in favor of voting him first place on this amateur hour, with Bill Blake, of Cleveland, and Brother Schilt, of L. U. No. 713, tied for second place.

Brothers and friends, turn back to your February issue of our WORKER and reread the aforementioned entries. I am sure you will be rewarded for the few moments spent doing so.

There are so many fine examples of thinking set to print in the JOURNAL that none of us should miss any of them and I hope many more local unions will be represented in these columns from now on.

K. H. GRIMES.

P.S.—The letter from L. U. No. 394 is worthy of much consideration. It is liable to happen to any of us.

#### GENERAL STRIKE WINS

In spite of labor-baiting politicians and false accusations of murder against strikers, gas bombs and propaganda, labor in Pekin, Ill., won a union agreement with the American Distilling Company, after a general strike involving 31 unions had tied up business in the city for three days. Full recognition to all unions concerned, included restoration of seniority rights, re-employment, establishment of an eight-hour day, five-day workweek, with time and one-half for overtime.

#### LABOR IN CHAINS ALWAYS REGIMENTED

(Continued from page 112)

important link in the distribution system of the Portland General Electric Company. Towering 200 feet above the plant is a concrete chimney, the most outstanding landmark in the city. On the other side of the river is the modest little house that I call home. The oldest son can climb into the dogwood trees on the vacant lot along side and looking westward can see the chimney of Station "E" some two miles and a half or so away. Since it is there that I perform my daily stunt in the world's productive effort, my twice diurnal problem is to progress from here to there. Now if I had one of those handy little gadgets called helicopters, I could rise from the back yard, breeze across the river and land beside the door of "Station E" in about five minutes. The ideal way! If I were to cover "the shortest distance between" on foot, I would have to zig-zag back and forth for a couple of miles (as the direction is diagonal to the lay of the city streets), follow some boy scout trails down over a two hundred foot bluff, skirt around an extensive swamp and then swim nearly a mile of fast flowing river to get to work. If the



#### DIAMOND-SHAPED BUTTONS

To wear in your coat lapel, carry the emblem and insignia of the I. B. E. W. Gold faced and handsomely enameled..... \$2.50



American citizen who is lately so bombastically berating the bureaucratic propensities of the present administration had made good his promise of "a chicken in every pot and a car in every garage," I could take mine (the car I mean, which I didn't get) and roll gaily northward down the Willamette, crossing on a bridge so beautiful that it has been termed "a poem stretched across a river," thence southward along the picturesque west side, driving carefully and obeying all traffic regulations, and I could be at "Station E" in 20 to 25 minutes. But since I am seemingly governed by things as they are, I must depend upon the Portland Traction Company for my transportation (taxicabs being, for obvious reasons, impractical). So I miss my car and have to wait for the next one, then ride something over four miles southwest to the center of the city, transfer and ride three more miles northwest to Station E. Thus allowing for an open draw bridge and other possible traffic delays, I must figure at least 45 minutes traveling time if I do not want to be late to work.

You see, Mr. Editor, there are various ways of getting from here to there, and I fear that, for the past 40 or 50 years, we have, in these United States of America, been trying to make it on foot. We apparently fell over the bluff in spite of the trails which the boy scouts made for us. Trails don't help much, if they are criticised from a distance instead of being consistently followed. We have the river ahead of us yet (and there's ice in it). I hope some one puts forward a platform that we can use as a raft.

#### Suggestions Gratefully Received

In the meantime, we might do well to listen to the fellow who thinks he has found a better way than ours. We do not necessarily have to follow him. And we can be sure that his cart is seaworthy (to mix one's metaphors) before venturing to use it, either on his road or our own. The Lord knows that we are not following the ideal way now.

So long as there are apostles of discontent, so long as there are men who feel that there is a better way to be found, and who seek it, that long will the human race progress. Since we are progressing toward that which we do not know, we can only go forward by a series of trials and experiments. In the past those who advanced the most radical of new ideas—Galileo, Columbus, and others like them—were responsible for the greatest strides forward—and they suffered the most from ridicule and persecution. We have later learned to appreciate and bless them for their bequests to mankind. The progress that we have made has been based upon the experiments that they performed. Franklin, the kite flyer, made possible the achievement of Thomas Edison, the wizard. So may it be in government. We do well to observe and follow each experiment to its conclusion, profiting as we may alike by the mistakes and discoveries which they make. We do well, also, to resist the impressment upon our own system of the untried or possibly faulty ideas of others. But we do not well in rejecting in its entirety that which we do not know. And we do not well in giving way to fear and responding to the alarms of selfish interests which would blind us to

possible advantages, lest we awaken to the exploitation which they practice upon us.

#### Financial Dictatorship—No?

Wherefore all this hue and cry of dictatorship and regimentation? Has not the power of money sat its throne in Wall Street for lo these many years, and told us, "this shall ye do"? And we have done it. It has said, "thus far shall ye go, and no farther"—and we have marched, and stopped! It has said, "this bite ye may have, but the rest of the loaf is mine" and we have starved. Dictatorship? It is to weep! Look you to industry, Mr. Editor. So long have we countenanced the spectacle of labor in ranks and files—bound more securely than with chains, recruited from the day it can climb over the side of its cradle, and marshaled into starveling slavery—that we no longer realize its degradation. And now, when there gleams a hope that the face of those masses may be turned toward the sun we hear "Regimentation!" If regimentation means the breaking of the ranks of slavery—then God give us it.

Wherein lies the danger, Mr. Editor? Break the dictatorship, which has throttled America for generations past, insure an economic security, and all the hosts in Leningrad could not swerve the nation of the United States from the institutions which it has chosen. They cry, "Beware of communism!" and during the Longshore strike, big business in the guise of the great steamship companies, aided and abetted by the utterances of Mr. Woll in "Liberty" (oh, the irony of the name), was making communists as fast as honest, loyal, patriotic Americans could change their minds and grasp at what seemed the lesser evil. And the process still goes on.

In a certain little red schoolhouse, on a pleasant spring day when the fishing was good, sat Nickie, among a score or more of well-behaved common or garden variety of school children. I knew Nickie in later years and learned something of his versatility. On this particular day he was amusing himself by flipping spit balls at the teacher. So skillful he was, and so artful, that he had scored a number of hits without betraying the source of the annoyance to the victim. Finally, however, she detected the culprit and bore down on Nickie with a ruler in her hand and fire in her eye. But with perfect "sang froid" and just at the psychological moment as she reached his desk he rose and with great animation and pointing excitedly toward the window shouted, "Oh, teacher, look at that gopher digging up your flowers."

Mr. Editor, somebody has been throwing spit balls—and how opportune has been the digging of the gopher!

#### PUBLIC OPINION RESPONDS TO JERSEY CAMPAIGN

(Continued from page 104)

ward, American basis, that is, upon a study of the problem and a drive for public regulation of the utilities. But should this move fail, the committee is prepared to seek the yardstick method, and turn to public ownership."

(Signed) R. A. JAHN, Chairman.  
S. J. CRISTIANO, Secretary.

Answers to this invitation are coming in in good movement. The association has answered these in part thus:

"We addressed a letter to you inviting co-operation of your organization in the campaign of the New Jersey State Electrical Workers Association for lower

electric rates because we believe that there is a close relationship between business recovery and power rates.

"As you know, there is a general movement throughout the United States for lower rates. This movement rests upon well-defined principles adduced from experience. These principles may be summarized as follows:

1. When power rates are progressively lower, there is a jump in the volume of current consumed.

2. This increase in consumption is not accounted for merely by increase in illumination.

3. It is accounted for in two other directions—by increase in the use of power for industrial purposes and by the purchase of electrical appliances by householders.

4. Both of these sources of power consumption stimulate business. More wheels turning in industrial plants mean employment for men and more electrical appliances sold mean employment of men in installation and in manufacturing.

5. Unemployment among electrical workers as well as other trades in New Jersey is great.

"The schedule of rates for New Jersey as compiled by the Federal Power Commission, Washington, D. C., reveals that New Jersey has a very high rate. The typical bill for 25 kilowatt hours of electrical energy for domestic uses in a number of important cities as compared with Newark, New Jersey, is as follows:

Washington, D. C.	\$0.98
Baltimore, Md.	1.25
Boston, Mass.	1.65
Minneapolis, Minn.	1.66
Toledo, Ohio	1.75
Cincinnati, Ohio	1.25
Buffalo, N. Y.	1.13
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.55
Milwaukee, Wis.	1.55
Kansas City, Mo.	1.55
Houston, Texas	1.30
San Francisco, Calif.	1.53
New York City, N. Y.	1.80
Newark, N. J.	2.15

"It is true that the Public Service Electric and Gas Company of New Jersey, which dominates the electric utility field in New Jersey, reduced its rates recently. This reduction came after the \$2.15 rate for 25 kilowatt hours was filed with the Federal Power Commission. It is now \$1.92, but this still is unreasonably high as compared with, say Washington, D. C., which is \$0.98.

"We believe that this campaign, inaugurated by the electrical workers, is of importance to the whole state of New Jersey and every community in it. We believe that business men as well as labor men should be interested in it. We would be glad if your association would set up a special committee to co-operate with our association."

#### CASEY'S CHRONICLES OF THE WORK WORLD

(Continued from page 113)

wirin' on the clips a span at a time, an' up an' down the poles at every span it was easy to keep warm. It was 50 pair cable, an' light an' easy to handle. Lacin' kerites through wooden cleats on the cable pole arms wasn't such a bad job but the fellers connectin' them kerites had to sit on a board supported by two iron triangles an' they had to peel an' clean the ends of the kerites an' fasten



them under small double brass nuts on the terminal heads in the cable boxes, an' they had to work bare handed, an' of course, me an' Terry had to get that job wished on us. Our hands would get so numb that every little while we would have to stop an' work up a little circulation in 'em so they wouldn't freeze.

"Well, we held our job down until spring, an' then one fine morning Terry says to me, 'Billy,' he says, 'you mind the talk we had with them two fellers in Detroit when we was workin' on the submarine cable there?' 'Yes,' says I. 'Well, yuh remember they said they had a union over there an' there was a new company starting up in opposition to the Bell an' there 'ud be lots o' work an' they was hirin' union men. We're young yet, an' we want to see some of the world, so let's quit at the end o' the month an' go over there an' try our luck. This gang 'ull soon be bustin' up an' we 'ud get separated anyway, so let's fly our kite. What do yuh say?' 'O. K. with me Terry,' says I. So, at the end o' the month, we went into the manager's office. He went by the name of 'Alphabetical' on account of him havin' three front handles to his name an' usin' the initials of them in his signature. We told him we was quittin' an' wanted our time. 'Alphabetical' was a pretty good sport an' well liked by the gang. He says, 'Boys, I hate to see yuh quit, fer you're good workers an' don't hit the booze, but you're young an' I don't blame yuh fer wantin' to see a little o' the world, but drop me a line once in awhile an' let me know how you're gettin' along, an' if yuh want to come back any time I think I can place yuh.'

"So we thanked him an' drew our money an' took the train fer Detroit. We landed there an' went right up to the head office of the new company which was called the New State Telephone. We went in an' saw the superintendent an' told him we was linemen lookin' fer a job. He asked us a few questions about where we had worked an' what experience we had. As soon as he learned we was from Canada he got quite friendly, as he happened to be a Canuck himself. He named a small town about 40 miles away, an' said: 'We're buildin' up this town an' can use a couple more linemen there. I'll give yuh a pass on the railroad an' yuh can report there in the mornin'.' He handed us a pass an' a letter of introduction. We thanked him an' went to a hotel fer the night. The next mornin' we was up bright an' early. Had a good breakfast an' caught the first train to the job. We hunted up the head foreman an' handed him our letter of introduction. He read it an' said: 'Yuh'd better arrange fer board an' lodgin' this forenoon an' start work at one o'clock.'

"We found out where most of the gang was stayin' an' arranged to board there, but the landlady, a Mrs. Pike, hadn't a spare room, but she sent us to an old couple two blocks farther on an' they was tickled to death to rent us a spare room they had. We unpacked our duds, changed our clothes, took our line tools with us an' went down to the boardin' house an' had a good dinner. Mrs. Pike shure know'd how to put up a good meal. After dinner one of the gang asked us if we was goin' to work on the job an' where was we from, all of which we answered, but they left us pretty much alone.

"We started with five other linemen

stringin' wire to fill in a new lead that was all ready. Their construction was the most up to date we had ever seen. All corner poles was double armed with blocks bolted in between the ends of the arms, an' every corner pole, dead end or curve was well guyed with strain guys against the other guys to hold them tight. There was three fellers in a little gang all by themselves who did all the guyin'. They had a light, little four-wheeled rig called a buckboard, which they hauled around by hand, an' on this buckboard they loaded their block an' tackle an' coils o' wire that they used for makin' up guys. You see seven strand guy hadn't come into general use yet. Their usual guy wire was made up o' four No. 9's, an' the way they made 'em up was like this: They would measure out four wires the right length an' put the ends through four holes in a piece o' board an' fasten them ends on to four spokes of one of the hind wheels of the buckboard, which they had jacked up, an' then, while one feller turned the wheel, another feller backed away with the board, an' by the time the feller with the board reached the end o' the wires they had a perfect guy as good as any seven strand.

"When they put their guy on they would pull it against a temporary No. 9 strain guy, an' when they got a lead finished it was ready to stand any strain without the line wires slackin' down, an' when the line wires was strung in an' all finished it made some o' the sloppy construction o' the Bell look sick. They used all No. 14 iron wire, which was a lot lighter an' better than the No. 12 we had been used to workin' on. The construction was all 10-pin cross arms and they strung five wires at a time. These wires was fastened on to swivel snaps on a runnin' board that had a piece o' rope on one end of it to keep it from twistin'. This runnin' board was fastened on to a runnin' line long enough fer the seven of us to carry up our poles an' reach to the old horse that did the pullin'. Each man had to lift the runnin' board over the cross arm as it come to him an' then separate the wires into their proper places. That old nag was a fast walker, an', if the runnin' board ever caught on the cross arm or the wires tangled an' caught on a pin, it would yank the arm quarter round before yuh could let a yell outa yuh. Where the shortest coil run out they would dead end all the wires around the pole an' slap a temporary head guy on, an' then we would go back an' start out with another lot. The coils was not very even in length so they had a lot o' small coils left over, but wire was cheap an' time was money an' it's s'prisin' how quick we could fill in a whole lead. As soon as the wire was all up they put a couple o' linemen with blocks on each junction pole to do the pullin' an' cut the lines through while the rest of us sighted an' tied in.

"One night the foreman stopped me an' told me to bring my lunch in the mornin' an' go out with a gang to string a pair o' wires some miles out in the country. Terry heard him, an' he says to me that night: 'Say, Billy! They're sendin' out some fast climbers on that job tomorrow an' I heard one o' them say they was goin' to hang yer hide on the fence, but I got a scheme whereby yuh can make them fellers think yer a rabbit among a lotta mud turtles. Take this new pair o' pliers o' mine, they're keen cutters, an' do jus' as I tell you, an' if yuh don't come back laughin' tomorrow night I'll be s'prised.' So he told me jus' what to do, an' away I went in the mornin'. They was 25-foot poles, an' we had to tie the wire in on two brackets. A driver with a horse an' wagon with two reels o' wire an' a grunt tendin' 'em kept ahead runnin' out the wires. There was five of us climbin', an' each man carried his two

wires up the pole and put 'em on loose ties. I was next to the feller sightin' in. Two grunts ahead was doin' the pullin' by snubbin' the wires around the pole an' breakin' down on 'em. I took a couple o' turns of the tie wire jus' tight enough so that a little cinch down would hold 'em. As soon as the sighter-in called 'tie' I jus' made four quick little cinches an' snips an' lets the pliers drop to the ground an' follers 'em so quick that I was first man down every time by a good margin, an' they never noticed me scoop up my pliers as I strolled along leisurely whistlin', 'Oh dear! What can the matter be.' Where they lost time was reachin' aroun' to put their pliers in the keepers which was usually worn towards the back o' the belt, an' that took time.

"The feller tyin' in the lead was a dandy climber an' would come down his pole in about two jumps every time, but, like the rest, his start was too late. That night he says to me: 'Say kid! When I seen that old war belt o' yours I know'd yuh was no greenhorn. How about you an' yer pardner joinin' the union?' I says, 'There is no union where we come from an' our main reason in comin' over here was to join up.' 'Fine,' says he.

"The gang had their cards in Local 17 in Detroit, an' the first meetin' night they went to attend they took us with them, an' by a special rulin' we was initiated the same night, an' got our cards. The fellers was all pretty friendly with us after that. Three or four of the gang was pretty heavy boozers an' used to get tanked up nearly every night after quittin', but they was good linemen an' could always do their work the next day. When we was through work fer the day we used to go to our room, clean up, change our clothes an' then go down to eat.

"One night, when we was on our way down as usual, we heard a noise in a saloon we was passing. Terry pushes the swing door open a little ways an' peeks in. He motions me to have a look too. Well, sir! Here was one of our gang o' boozers an' he'd had enough booze to get a fightin' fit on. He was a big, tough-looking hombre an' he still had his belt an' spurs on, an' here he was dancin' in his big boots on the polished top o' the bar with a heavy glass schooner in one hand an' his connectors in the other. Facin' him, at a respectable distance, was a bunch o' colored gentlemen an' he was cussin' with talk that fairly sizzled, an' darin' em to step up to the bar. The bartender had a resigned look on his face an' appeared to think that there was nothing he could do in the matter. Terry lets the door swing too very softly, an' says: 'This is no place fer us, Billy. Let's go down to the boardin' house an' maybe we'll have a little peace an' quietness.'

"But, did we get it? I'll say we didn't, for when we gets there we finds another o' the booze gang all lit up. He comes into the room shoutin' out his particular war song, grabs up the newspapers on the readin' table, makes a big roll of 'em, sets fire to one end of it, an' wavin' his torch in the air, mounts the card table an' proceeds to give a song an' dance. But Mrs. Pike hadn't been running' a boardin' house fer years without knowin' how to handle such cases. She rushes into the room an' shouts, 'Here you!' Grabs him by coat tails an' gives him such a powerful yank that he lands on his neck on the floor, an' fer a minute or two we thinks, from his horrible groans, that his neck is broke. He's plumb sober by this time an' get up still groanin', an' Mrs. Pike hustles him up to his room an' gives him a bottle o' liniment to rub on his neck, but I noticed he carried his head sideways fer about a week after."



## WOMAN'S WORK

(Continued from page 116)

this contest idea. It is one of the most effective ways of making the kids what I might call "union conscious," and at the same time having a strong effect on the sale of union made products.

You know, when the children are really young, before they are old enough to run and play, and go to school with the other children all day long, mother and daddy are their supreme authority. While they may rebel at some of their parents' decisions they wouldn't question that mother and daddy are essentially the wisest, best, and rightest people in the world.

But when they are away from home most of the day and mixing with other children they begin to have doubts. Johnny Smith's mother lets him go out after supper. Susy White's mother gives her money for candy. And your kids get sassy and you have to make more of an effort to assert your authority.

When they're a little older they begin to be exposed to ideas. The father of your child's playmate has different ideas from yours; he thinks, for instance, that unions are gangs of thugs and reds. His boy repeats his ideas. Your son becomes uncertain. He may say, "My father belongs to a union, but I don't know what good it is."

You mothers know all this, and many times you have felt that you'd like someone else to back up your opinions and ideals as you seek to instill them into the minds of your children. And that, I think, is the real value of these St. Paul shows and contests.

The money expenditure has not been great because so much free assistance has been given. The Motion Picture Operators, for example, have donated their services to operate the movie machine in the Labor Temple. Lou Golden, manager of a theater, gave the use of a full-length western feature and a comedy as a New Year's gift to the children. The labor newspaper has been generous with its space in reporting the shows and contests. While the Bakers and Milk Wagon Drivers have been most prominent in giving prizes up to this time I expect other unions will get into the spirit in later months. Tying up the enthusiasm of the child to the union ideal is bound to be a great idea for union labor in any city.

## I. B. E. W. STATES POSITION ON RADIO WORKERS

(Continued from page 100)

ence by older established organizations. If such statements were sincerely made how can the leaders of radio workers today conscientiously advocate the formation of a national organization that obviously would be compelled to function and operate without the assistance of the A. F. of L. and in the face of the organizing activities that the A. F. of L. has directed the older organizations to engage in? The question must be answered by your own intelligence. It cannot be answered by

ambitious individuals desiring to promote their own interests at the cost of vain sacrifice by the rank and file members of the radio workers' group.

Affiliate with an organization built upon a half century of experience gained in successfully advancing and protecting the interests of electrical workers. Affiliate under the beneficial membership proposal if you can afford it. If your present earnings are insufficient to permit affiliation as beneficial members then join the I. B. E. W. as non-beneficial members and help that organization to help you improve your wages and working conditions so that you can afford a decent death benefit and pension protection that wage earners are entitled to receive the benefit of.

Fraternally yours,

D. W. TRACY,  
International President.

## CONDENSERS AND CONDENSER-START MOTORS

(Continued from page 103)

sions, illustration of unit itself, and list price. The electrician contemplating repairs of this general character should equip himself with these replacement catalogs without delay.

Since there is a wide range of designs and sizes among condensers for condenser-start motors, it is virtually impossible to carry any stock worthy of the name. The better grade of jobbers, however, are beginning to stock the more popular types of replacement condensers. The electrician specializing in certain makes of equipment, especially if he handles a given make of refrigerator or oil burner or other appliance, may find it worth while to carry a stock of just those units required in the make or makes he services.

## BRITISH EVALUATE INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM

(Continued from page 97)

3. Organization by industry is impossible without strong centralized authority verging on dictatorship.

4. Wider and wider co-operation between unions is desirable, but this must rest upon voluntary co-operation and consent.

## WHEN WEALTH LACKS SOCIAL VISION

(Continued from page 110)

on my papers when I come to die. I have no one to leave my money to, and so—" and then he terminated the speech with the expressive gesture of expanding hands.

Munsey cherished for more than 10 years his vision of a combination to control the business and influence of the press in many cities, a newspaper chain, a trust which should be dominant in its way as was his industrial ideal, the Steel Corporation, but all owned by himself.

Actually he did seize for himself a surpassing opportunity, the most strategic grouping of papers ever linked to-

gether on the Atlantic Coast, the five largest cities. It started with the purchase of papers in Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and Boston.

Munsey owned 18 papers. Some were cut off at once by the process of merger, some declined and expired in his hands, a few he sold, more than half went to death because of his touch. His career was a prolonged rise on the stepping-stones of his dead papers.

Newspapermen began seeing death overtake the institutions that had been their pride and their living, death coming each time from the hand of Munsey. It was not surprising that they swiftly labeled him as a pestilence and a curse. He was the boll weevil of journalism. No man in the newspaper field was more hated than Munsey, and those who hated him had cause. It was hate bred of suffering and terror. Year by year the number of the displaced increased from hundreds to thousands. While he was at large, no one felt secure.

Newspapermen regard their papers as something growing up out of their own soil to be cultivated patiently through the years, to be shaped and distinguished by their taste and skill. Munsey saw editorship as a commercial venture, newspapers as factories to be bought, sold, reorganized, speeded up or shut down as conditions warranted.

Munsey was no robber baron as were the Jay Goulds, Daniel Drews, Collis Huntingtons and others of a slightly earlier day. Nevertheless, his acts, often devastating, and his marauding and killings—his human insensibility as he pursued his ambitions—he caused in all likelihood quite as much heartache as did the veriest of robber barons. He had one talent which he proudly mistook for greatness, the talent for making money. With such equipment, coupled with his physical energy and the giant power of his wealth, he climbed to dominance in levels supposedly reserved for the intellect. His career is a commentary upon the civilization which allowed him such a place.

## Saw Own Life a Failure

Life had yielded things to Munsey abundantly, but he was a sad and lonely man. As the years advanced he talked more about his money. "What will I do about my money? I don't know. But I've made up my mind that where I give it, there will be no graft. I have studied the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The trustees get nothing in compensation for their services. It is my money. I have a right to do with it as I please."

Later he said, "I feel that my life has been a failure. I'll give you three reasons. I have no heirs. I am disappointed in my friendships. And I have no clear views on great social and religious problems. Now there's another reason for feeling like a failure. No man of great wealth has many friends. When my father died, Mr. Morgan was willing to send a carload of flowers if necessary. But I always was afraid of him. It seemed to me that he always had a knife sharpened and



ready for me, if ever I made a misstep, to plunge it into my back."

He was stricken with appendicitis in December, 1925, and died at the age of 71 years. No one of his family was present. He was allowed a brief period to adjust his property—what was he to do with his wealth? The great fortune was adrift, a fortune directly affecting thousands of persons who helped him make his fortune and who earned their living from it. Munsey had had 40 years to puzzle over the riddle of his wealth. He gave all his millions to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, a place he had never been to in his life! His remaining newspapers were sold, his real estate, his bank stock, his grocery stores, his magazines, everything was turned into money.

All that remains to preserve the name of this hero of a success against the forgetfulness of humanity is a tablet at the main stairway of the museum. On it are carved the names of 75 benefactors, and at the bottom, in small letters, is carved the name, "Frank A. Munsey."

### ELECTRICAL SCIENCE IMPINGES UPON MECHANICAL

(Continued from page 105)

delivery on the job of any wire, cable or electrical devices or apparatus. As the total time allowed for the execution of the entire project was two years it is evident that a very considerable proportion of the work called for *mechanical* as well as *electrical* knowledge and training.

### BUILDING UNIONS PRESS FOR PUBLIC HOUSING

(Continued from page 107)

to a new, permanent national public housing authority, set up in corporate form, with a three or five man board, on which labor and consumers are represented.

3. All government-aided large-scale low-rent housing activities should be carried out through this authority, except strictly rural housing and rural re-settlement, which properly belong to the field of agricultural planning.

4. The national public housing authority must be independent of any agency such as FHA, primarily concerned with the financing and refinancing of individual middle-class and upper-class homes. Such agencies, and the interests with which they are naturally allied, have too often proven themselves to be hostile to the purposes and procedure of a public housing program.

5. In view of the need for immediate and effective action, and also in consideration of the impending acute shortage of homes, federal aid must not be limited to the direct reconstruction of central slum areas.

6. On the other hand, housing for industrial workers must in general be located within easy reach of a variety of work opportunities, and projects must not be set up on the basis of "part-time industry" and compulsory gardening. In isolated areas, "subsistence homesteads"

merely extend the feudal conditions already existing in many one-industry and company towns. In the suburbs of larger cities they will only serve to keep the level of cash wages down.

7. The National Public Housing Authority should work through local public housing authorities, and co-operative or other non-profit private agencies representing labor or consumers. Such local agencies should, wherever and whenever possible, initiate, construct, own and manage housing projects.

### Standards to Be Maintained in All Public-Aided Housing Projects

1. Prevailing union wage rates and union working conditions must be maintained in the design, construction and operation of all housing projects receiving public aid. In general, all public-aided housing should be constructed by pre-qualified contractors.

2. There must be a bona fide labor and consumer representation on both the national public housing authority and on all local public housing authorities eligible to receive federal aid.

3. Projects should be large enough to be planned as complete neighborhood units, including recreational and social facilities and meeting halls.

4. Minimum physical standards of construction and dwelling design should be set up for each region, below which no public-aided housing can fall.

5. Projects must be so set up and operated that they will remain permanently within reach of the income groups for whom they were intended. Management must be professional and not political.

### Powers and Appropriations

1. The federal government must expect to supply practically all of the subsidy needed to make up the difference between "economic rent" and what low-income families can pay. For this purpose the authority must have the power to make capital grants, loans at less than the cost of the money, and clearly-defined contractual annual grants.

2. The authority must have the power to make self-liquidating loans to local agencies. These agencies should be encouraged, however, to raise as much of their capital as possible themselves, and the authority should have the power to guarantee the obligations of local agencies.

3. Since most local authorities will be inexperienced and unable to take their full share of responsibility at the outset, and since immediate construction and widespread demonstrations of modern housing standards are essential, the authority must itself have the power to construct and manage housing projects.

4. To carry out these purposes, the authority should receive in this session of Congress an appropriation of \$500,000,000, to be expended within the next two years. This sum will go for capital and annual grants, interest subsidies and running expenses. In addition, it should have the power to issue bonds, and to borrow from the Postal Savings Bank and other semi-public sources, in order to provide funds for self-liquidating loans.



### DIAMOND-SHAPED BUTTONS

To wear in your coat lapel, carry the emblem and insignia of the I. B. E. W. Gold faced and handsomely enameled..... **\$2.50**

### TRACY REFUTES POPULAR HOUSING FALLACIES

(Continued from page 106)

Mr. Hadley concludes his "disinterested" report on housing in behalf of the consumer with this hope: "It does seem proper to conclude that the consumer has much to gain if home building at last gets into step with the machine age." We believe that the rightful interpretation of this hope is this: the consumer has little to gain if home building becomes the subject of profit taking on a mass production basis.

### NEW SAN DIEGO FAIR 100 PER CENT UNION

(Continued from page 111)

The Sears, Roebuck and Company remodeling job was another 100 per cent union job, which was done by the San Diego Electric Shop, with Brother Claude Cyren as foreman and about 40 members of L. U. No. 569 assisting.

The California Electric Works, with Brother Walter S. Rainey at the helm, has done many sizeable jobs and all 100 per cent union. And we are not forgetting some 15 or 16 other contractors who are working 100 per cent union crews from Local Union No. 569, which bears out the statement that to hire union men is to have your work done properly and is cheapest in the long run.

Local Union No. 569 is accomplishing these fine results due to the fine teamwork and wonderful co-operation of all the officers and the executive board. Brother S. V. Monsees, as president, is always on the job. Brother Hauser, as chairman of the executive board, with Brothers A. H. Johnson, J. W. Graham, T. J. Sullivan, Herbert Ogden, Claude Cyren and C. L. Hays, have given unsparingly of their time and support to help the writer, who is business manager and financial secretary. Last, but not least, I want to mention Brother R. A. Mathewson, who, as the manager of the state free employment office, has always found time to take care of the duties of recording secretary. And we must not forget the real "big shot," the man who signs the pay checks for yours truly, Brother E. S. Tefftour, tried and true treasurer, who has kept our finances in a healthy condition at all times.

To say the least, conditions could be a great deal worse (but I hope they never will be) than they are just now, as all members are busy getting the exposition ready for your inspection by February 12, 1936, or at some future date during the year, and if some of the government work that is talked about is started, we will make out fairly well.

In closing, we extend to all Brother electrical workers an invitation to visit San Diego and the exposition—but do not expect to go to work, as we have the situation well in hand, with plenty of local men to do all the necessary work. I will now sign off and go outside to absorb a little of our California sunshine.



# IN MEMORIAM

## Thomas P. Lynch, L. U. No. 887

*Initiated April 26, 1929*

Whereas it has been the will of Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, to remove from our midst our dearly beloved Brother, Thomas P. Lynch; and

Whereas Local Union No. 887, I. B. E. W., has lost a loyal and faithful member; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of Local Union No. 887, extend our deepest and most heartfelt sympathy to the wife and parents of our late departed Brother; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread in full on the minutes of Local Union No. 887, and a copy sent to the International Office for publication in the Journal; and be it further

Resolved, That the charter be draped in mourning for a period of 30 days in respect to the memory of our late Brother, Thomas P. Lynch.

R. W. BLAKE,  
A. W. BITTEL,  
E. C. FRANK,  
EARL BARTLETT,  
Committee.

## Oscar Peterson, L. U. No. 494

*Initiated September 22, 1933*

Whereas Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, has seen fit to call from our midst our esteemed and worthy Brother, Oscar Peterson, who has passed on to his greater reward; and

Whereas Local Union No. 494, I. B. E. W., has suffered the loss of a true and worthy Brother; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, in a spirit of brotherly love, pay tribute to his memory by expressing to his family our sincere sympathy; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to his family, a copy to be spread on our minutes, and a copy to the Electrical Workers' Journal for publication

ARTHUR SCHROEDER,  
ARDEN FENSEL,  
E. FRANSWAY,  
GEORGE KAISER,  
Committee.

## Jacob G. Schott, L. U. No. 212

*Initiated November 14, 1914*

Whereas Local Union No. 212 has suffered the loss of one of its true and loyal members, Brother Jacob Schott; and

Whereas Local Union No. 212 wishes to extend its sympathy to those who remain to mourn his passing; therefore be it

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of our local union, a copy be sent to our official Journal for publication, and that our charter be draped for a period of 30 days.

WILLIAM MITTENDORF,  
ELMER SCHENK,  
Committee.

## Ernest J. Shirvell, L. U. No. 664

*Initiated August 24, 1929*

Whereas we, the members of Local Union No. 664, I. B. E. W., have suffered the loss of our loyal and faithful Brother, Ernest J. Shirvell, who departed from this life on February 17, 1936; and

Whereas the absence of his fellowship and kindly nature will be keenly felt by all who knew him; therefore be it

Resolved, That this local in meeting assembled, stand in silence for one minute as a solemn tribute to his memory; and be it further

Resolved, That we drape our charter for a period of 30 days, and that a copy of these resolutions be sent to his bereaved family, that a copy be spread upon the minutes of our meeting, and a copy be sent to our official Journal for publication.

FRANK F. ZIESE,  
E. McGUIRE,  
J. SKELTON,  
G. RYAN,  
Committee.

## Edward N. Rodgers, L. U. No. 923

*Died before initiation*

It is with a sincere feeling of regret that our local reports the death on October 27, 1935, of a beloved member, Edward N. Rodgers.

Whereas it has pleased Almighty God to call to his eternal reward our esteemed Brother, Edward N. Rodgers; and

Whereas we, the members of Local Union No. 923, deeply mourn the loss of a faithful worker and a beloved Brother; therefore be it

Resolved, That our sincere sympathy be extended to the bereaved family of our deceased Brother, and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family, a copy to the official Journal for publication, and a copy be spread upon the minutes of our local union, and that our charter be draped for a period of 60 days as a token of respect to his memory.

W. S. SMITH,  
Secretary.

## Edward Parmenter, L. U. No. 17

*Initiated December 8, 1924*

Whereas it has been the will of Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, to remove from our midst our dearly beloved Brother, Edward Parmenter; and

Whereas Local Union No. 17, I. B. E. W., has lost a loyal and faithful member; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of Local Union No. 17, I. B. E. W., extend our deepest and most heartfelt sympathy to the wife and relatives of our late departed Brother; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread in full upon the minutes of Local Union No. 17, I. B. E. W., a copy be sent to the International Office for publication in the official Journal, and that a copy be sent to the widow of our late Brother; and be it further

Resolved, That the charter of Local Union No. 17 be draped in mourning for a period of 30 days in respect to the memory of our late Brother, Edward Parmenter.

WILLIAM McMAHON,  
BERT ROBINSON,  
WILLIAM P. FROST,  
Committee.

## Henry N. Broderson, L. U. No. 90

*Initiated July 2, 1929*

Local Union No. 90 is called upon to pay its last respects to Brother Henry N. Broderson, who passed away on December 31, 1935; therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of this local extend their sympathy to the relatives and friends of our departed Brother.

Resolved, That a copy be sent to his sister, a copy be sent to the Journal for publication, and a copy be spread upon our minutes; and be it further

Resolved, That we drape our charter for 30 days.

WILLIAM B. BURNS,  
Secretary.

## William Seigel, L. U. No. 180

*Initiated June 7, 1916*

Whereas it has pleased the Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, to take from our ranks our worthy Brother, William Seigel; and

Whereas we, the members of Local No. 180, deeply mourn the loss of a true Brother, and wish to extend to the relatives and friends of our late Brother, William Seigel, our deepest sympathy in their bereavement; therefore be it

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the family, a copy be spread upon the minutes of our local, and that our charter be draped for a period of 30 days in his memory, and that a copy be sent to our official publication, the Electrical Workers' Journal, for publication.

GROVER BELL,  
J. H. HAWES,  
Committee.

## Spencer Black, L. U. No. 604

*Initiated March 28, 1935*

Whereas Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, has removed from our midst our worthy Brother, Spencer Black; and

Whereas in the death of Brother Black, Local No. 640, of I. B. E. W., has lost one of its true and devoted members; therefore be it

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days in respect to our departed Brother; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread on our minutes and a copy be sent to the Electrical Workers' Journal for publication.

P. E. DELMONICO,  
Financial Secretary.

## George H. Miller, L. U. No. 96

*Initiated September 25, 1905*

Whereas it is with a feeling of deep sorrow we record the passing of Brother George H. Miller, one of the most faithful and most esteemed members of Local No. 96, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; and

Whereas the people of the labor movement of the state of Massachusetts have lost a true and loyal friend, for he had many, through his travels as labor investigator, in the board of labor and industries, a position he has held for 23 years, where he had an opportunity to personally contact the secretary of every local union in the commonwealth; and

Whereas Local Union No. 96 will always cherish the memory of Brother Miller, who was active in the local from the date of his initiation in 1904, elected as president and was business agent up to the time of his appointment by Governor David I. Walsh, and although in the employ of the state, continued his membership, and was active in the work of Local No. 96 up to the end; and

Whereas Local No. 96 has lost in the passing of Brother Miller a true friend and hard worker for the cause of trade unionism; therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of Local No. 96, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, pay tribute to his memory by expressing to his family our sincere sympathy; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to his family, a copy be spread upon our minutes and a copy be sent to the Electrical Workers' Journal for publication; and be it further

Resolved, That the charter of this local union be draped for a period of 30 days.

WILLIAM J. SMITH,  
J. FRANKLIN LABOSSIERE,  
CHARLES E. MARTINEAU,  
JOSEPH H. JASPER,  
HENRY E. CHARTIER,  
SAMUEL J. DONNELLY,  
JOHN F. McCLOSKEY,  
RICHARD FRASIER,  
Committee.

## Gus R. Schuman, L. U. No. 1

*Initiated July 7, 1903*

It is with sorrow and regret that we, the members of Local Union No. 1, I. B. E. W., record the passing of our Brother, Gus R. Schuman; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, in the spirit of brotherly love, pay tribute to his memory by expressing to his family our sincere sympathy; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to his family, a copy be sent to our official Journal for publication, and a copy be spread in full upon the minutes of Local Union No. 1.

M. A. NEWMAN,  
J. HERMAN FINKE,  
A. L. BOEMER,  
Committee.

## KROGER STORES ORGANIZED

After a six-weeks' strike, managers and clerks of the Kroger Grocery and Baking Co., in the city of Memphis, Tenn., ratified an agreement offered to their union by company officials, February 21. Hours and wages asked by the strikers, and other concessions, were agreed to, and reinstatement of all strikers in their former positions.



# DEATH CLAIMS PAID FROM FEBRUARY 1-FEBRUARY 29, 1936

L. U. No.	Name	Amount
180	William C. Seigel	\$1,000.00
17	E. D. Parmenter	1,000.00
134	A. Howes	1,000.00
I. O.	James H. Duncanson	1,000.00
3	Joseph J. Edwards	1,000.00
58	G. B. Camp	1,000.00
I. O.	J. J. Hanley	444.45
I. O.	Thomas J. Houlihan	1,000.00
I. O.	C. M. Munson	1,000.00
134	Paul Bluhm	1,000.00
134	William Matt	1,000.00
I. O.	J. F. Nelson	1,000.00
103	L. N. Johnson	1,000.00
52	F. C. Duchemin	1,000.00
134	Luther Astenius	1,000.00
134	H. Mueller	1,000.00
38	A. E. Brown	1,000.00
I. O.	W. C. Foerster	1,000.00
5	R. P. Adams	14.58
134	J. A. Grover	1,000.00
664	E. J. Shirvell	1,000.00
9	J. W. Murray	1,000.00
I. O.	P. F. Lynch	1,000.00
38	E. B. Deckerhoff	1,000.00
18	A. Randall	700.00
I. O.	F. L. Green	1,000.00
I. O.	E. S. Emerson	1,000.00
912	Michael Firtha	300.00
58	M. Holm	300.00
100	P. B. Brown	1,000.00
I. O.	M. McDonald	1,000.00
134	B. A. Burke	1,000.00
Total		\$28,759.03

## RAILROAD LABOR BOARD ENDURES MIDST FLUX

(Continued from page 108)

*Kansas, 236 U. S. 1, but these decisions are inapplicable. The Railway Labor Act of 1926 does not interfere with the normal exercise of the right of the carrier to select its employees or to discharge them. The statute is not aimed at this right of the employers but at the interference with the right of employees to have representatives of their own choosing. As the carriers subject to the Act have no constitutional right to interfere with the freedom of the employees in making their selections, they cannot complain of the statute on constitutional grounds.* (Italics ours.)

### Right of Organization Guaranteed

The right of labor to organize and to bargain collectively through representatives selected without outside interference once having been declared an inalienable and constitutional right, the "due process" clause no longer stands in the way of labor legislation. The Fifth Amendment does not present for the National Labor Relations Act the pitfall which it presented for early efforts toward legislation in behalf of railroad labor.

The First Railroad Labor Act, approved by President Cleveland in 1888, provided for adjustment of labor disputes through voluntary arbitration and, if that failed, through an investigation. But no provision was made for enforcing awards. The arbitration provision was never used; the investigation provision was used only once, in the case of the Pullman strike of 1894, and then unsuccessfully.

The Erdman Act of 1898, 10 years later inaugurated the policy of governmental mediation and conciliation in labor disputes. While the law provided for voluntary arbitration as a secondary method, experience with the measure proved that mediation was much more effective than arbitration. The law, of limited scope, was practically unused for its first eight years, but between 1906 and 1913, 61 cases were settled. It was under the Erdman Act that the Supreme Court ruled in this *Adair* case in 1908 that Congress could not make it a misdemeanor for railroads to discriminate against persons who belong to labor organizations.

The Newlands Act of 1913 established the first permanent Board of Mediation and Conciliation. It placed definite reliance on mediation for adjusting disagreements. But if mediation failed, the board attempted to have the matter submitted to a temporary board of arbitration. The mediation and arbitration boards were now empowered to render interpretations of their agreements and awards in case of later question over them, but these decisions were not binding and the law still provided no means of enforcement.

The Adamson Act of 1916 established the eight-hour standard working day, at no reduction in the daily pay, for railroad workers. It was a direct congressional intervention to settle a serious dispute after mediation efforts had failed and arbitration had been refused by the carriers. In the *Wilson v. New* (243 U. S. 332) case, which arose as a result of this measure, the Supreme Court ruled that Congress had the right to fix a standard of wages on the railroads, "to fill the want of one caused by the failure [of the roads] to exert the private right on the subject." This ruling is one of the most important decisions regarding railroad labor ever handed down.

Federal control of the railroads during the war (1917-20) laid the basis for the present Railway Labor Act. It restored in practice the right of workers to organize without interference. The director general of railroads entered into wage agreements with the older train service brotherhoods during the first year, and later extended this activity to include shop craft organizations, stationary firemen and oilers, clerks and freight handlers, signalmen and maintenance-of-way employees. Wages were readjusted for all classes of workers; the eight-hour day was made the future basis of compensation, and a board was established to investigate complaints of inequalities. Three adjustment boards, for various classes of employees, were also formed to settle disputes over the interpretation or application of the wage agreements made with the director general.

The Transportation Act of 1920, following the return of the roads to private management, was a compromise measure, unsatisfactory to all concerned. In some respects it was a reversion to the original act of 1888. Federal mediation services were completely lost. No protection was given to the right of workers to organize or to freely select their own representatives. The Board of Mediation and Conciliation, set up under the Newlands Act, was replaced by a U. S. Railroad Labor Board to which disputes were referred after employer-employee conferences failed to dispose of them. This board was composed of nine members, three each to represent labor, management and the public. The force of public opinion was supposed to be sufficient to enforce the board's decisions, but soon proved to be ineffective.

The Railway Labor Act of 1926, now in effect, embodies the best features of past experience with railroad labor legislation. The desires of both management and labor were

thoroughly canvassed before it was enacted. It enunciates that it is the duty of the carriers and their employees "to exert every reasonable effort to make and maintain" wage agreements and working rules, to quickly settle all disputes, through mediation if possible, and to avoid interruption of railroad operation. Each party has the right to select its own representatives without interference, influence or coercion by the other. This principle was fought through the courts until the Supreme Court ruled in favor of labor in the *Texas and New Orleans R. R. Co. v. Brotherhood of Railway Clerks* case, as we have seen.

The 1926 act establishes a United States Board of Mediation to mediate in disputes involving wage agreements and working conditions. If settlement through mediation fails the board is required to attempt to induce the parties to submit to arbitration, the award being binding on both parties. Failing arbitration, the board may notify the President, who may appoint an emergency board to investigate the facts and report thereon, with recommendations, within 30 days. Pending the outcome of these proceedings no changes in the conditions under dispute may be made by either side.

The Amendments to the Bankruptcy Act early in 1933 made railroads in receivership subject to the provisions of the Railway Labor Act of 1926. It specifically prohibited judges, trustees or receivers from using the funds of bankrupt railroads to maintain company unions.

The Emergency Transportation Act, approved by President Roosevelt on June 16, 1933, stated that all "carriers, whether under control of a judge, trustee, receiver, or private management, shall be required to comply with the provisions of the Railway Labor Act" and with the labor provisions incorporated in the recent amendments to the Bankruptcy Act, including the ban on company unions.

The 1934 Amendments to the Railway Labor Act of 1926 reiterate the labor provisions of the Bankruptcy Act Amendments and of the Emergency Transportation Act, embodying them as part of the Railway Labor Act itself. In addition to clarifying the right to organize and bargain collectively the amendments provide penalties for interference with this right on the part of either the railroads or their agents and for the use of railroad funds to maintain labor organizations. They provide for the settlement of disputes over the choice of labor representatives through election, held by the mediation board directly, without interference from the employers. They make it obligatory for the roads to recognize duly elected labor representatives and to deal with them in making agreements.

The 1934 amendments also create a National Railroad Adjustment Board to interpret and apply the wage agreements. The United States Board of Mediation was replaced by the National Mediation Board, but the functions remain much the same as before. Altogether the present railroad labor legislation stands as the most advanced form of governmental regulation of labor relations this country has yet seen. It is greatly to be hoped that the National Labor Relations Board weathers the constitutionality storm to provide equal protection for industrial workers.

### CODES LEGAL IN WISCONSIN

The governor of Wisconsin has authority to impose codes of fair competition on industry in the state, under the state Recovery Act, according to ruling by the state supreme court.



## 7-WEEK STRIKE WON WITH LAUGHTER

(Continued from page 109)

"My men are surrounded by a mob, and can't leave the house!" Curtis told the young man who answered the telephone at the jail.

Frazier, who informed Curtis of the disturbance, also told Sheriff Frank Burns. The sheriff told him he would gladly send men in case of actual violence, but otherwise would not take sides in the union-non-union controversy. The young clerk knew what to do: he did not send any patrolmen.

I happened to be in the jail at the time. I accompanied Curtis, minus police protection, to the scene. Tom Edge, the electrician, came out of the house at the sight of his boss, and the helper, Russell Robertson, followed him. Both scanned the nearby shrubbery carefully as they ventured into the yard. Edge added an element of mystery to the story when he maintained the men who threatened him were not electricians.

"I know all the electricians in town," he said, "and the men were strangers to me. They drove up in a Checker Cab, and came in. They told us to stop work, and one of them told the others 'Let's take him for a ride.' We ran into the house, and Mr. Frazier kept them out."

Frazier was worried and a little bewildered by the incident.

"The men talked to me about union labor," he said. "I told them I wouldn't have any trouble on my property, and made them back off to the highway. They disappeared into the woods and down the highway in different directions."

Curtis had his men get into their own car, he led the way down the mountain, they followed him, and Frazier followed them. There was no sign of the cab or its occupants. Curtis said he would ask that his men be allowed to carry pistols for their protection. Sheriff Burns said "I'm not arming anybody."

The mystery was not cleared up. Of course no union member knew anything about it, and no one took the trouble to investigate. There was no question as to its effect on the strike, however. The other principal incident involving the law and newspaper publicity was the beating of a strike-breaker and the arrest of a picket.

### Phoney Beating Bared

A. C. Jobe, 27, of Cleveland, Tenn., who took a job in the Terrell Electric Company when all organized electricians were on strike and while J. C. Fornier was one of the electricians doing picket duty in front of the shop, was beaten over the head as he waited for a bus at five o'clock one evening in front of Warner Park, on one of the busiest of Chattanooga suburban thoroughfares.

He gave police Fornier's name, and Chief of Police Ray Bryan went with him to Fornier's home. Asked by the chief whether that was the man, Jobe said, according to Chief Bryan's testimony in city court, "It looks like him." Pressed for a better answer, Jobe said, "If it's not him, it's his twin brother." Pressed for a still more positive identification, he said, "That's the man."

Fornier had an alibi. He could not have

been at that spot at five o'clock. Jobe testified the attacker came up behind him, and hit him some 50 times on his head with a hose or piece of service cable. He did not see the man hitting him, but saw some men getting into a car nearby as he lay on the pavement.

Some half dozen city officials were in court to testify as to Fornier's character. W. L. Williams, assistant city electrician and president of the local, and Chief Bryan, gave their testimony in Fornier's behalf. City Judge Martin Fleming then electrified the court by joining the defense.

"How old are you, Fornier?" he asked.

"Thirty-six."

"Then," the judge continued, turning to Attorney Herbert King, "I have known your client 36 years. I knew his father before he was born. His character is unimpeachable."

I wrote the news story as it was. An editor made it even better by putting on it a black head which read, "Striker Hero In City Court." Needless to say, the city case against Fornier was dismissed. The state case never got past the grand jury.

It was almost enough to make the strikers themselves sorry for the poor contractors. All odds were against them. A stink-bomb, exploding in one of the shops while no union electrician was anywhere near it, still tells, by the sense of smell to persons entering the store, of their dilemma. There never was a prettier strike from the workers' viewpoint. All comedy; not a trace of sadness in the entire seven weeks.

International Representative O. A. Walker, half dead with a cold, worked diligently.

Business Manager Johnson was on the job practically day and night. The new scale went into effect January 1.

Local No. 175 made one mistake, in my opinion. They should have asked for \$1.10 or \$1.25. They would have won it.

## EVOLUTION OF A GREAT ORGANIZATION

(Continued from page 98)

better wages and working conditions. These are the first goals of any labor union, but a labor union in a modern industry must perform hundreds of other services for its members and must confer many benefits. The Brotherhood has a successful fraternal insurance organization; it has a pension service; it operates a modern magazine that has real leadership within the industry and is read by thousands outside the organization. It owns its own modern building. It established one of the first research departments that any labor organization possesses. In short, it has taken an honorable part in a widespread, modern industry and is prepared to continue to do so.

Lady—Why have they let all the monkeys out of their cages?

Zoo Attendant—Holiday, mum. This is Darwin's birthday.—New York Central Lines Journal.

## PRICE LIST OF SUPPLIES

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Book, Day.....	1.75	Receipt Book, Members (750 receipts).....	4.80
Book, Roll Call.....	1.50	Receipt Book, Miscellaneous (300 receipts).....	2.40
Carbon for receipt books.....	.05	Receipt Book, Miscellaneous (750 receipts).....	4.80
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Complete Local Charter Outfit.....	25.00	Receipt Book, Financial Secretary's.....	.35
Constitution, per 100.....	7.50	Receipt Book, Treasurer's.....	.35
Single Copies.....	.10	Receipt Holders, each.....	.25
Electrical Workers, Subscription per year.....	2.00	Research weekly report cards, per 100.....	.50
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Envelopes, Official, per 100.....	1.00	Seal.....	4.00
Gavels, each.....	.50	Seal (pocket).....	7.50
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Ledger pages to fit above ledger, per 100.....	1.50	Warrant Book, for R. S.....	.50
Ledger, Financial Secretary's, 100 pages.....	3.00		
Ledger, Financial Secretary's, 200 pages.....	4.50		
Ledger, Financial Secretary's 400 pages.....	8.75		
(Extra Heavy Binding)			

### FOR E. W. B. A.

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		Reinstatement Blanks, per 100.....	.75

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ADDRESS, G. M. BUGNIAZET, I. S.



# LOCAL UNION OFFICIAL RECEIPTS FROM JANUARY 11 TO FEBRUARY 10, 1936

L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS
I. O.	99461 101665	48	35251 35290	129	305228	217	253054 253063	352	965362 965533
1	14485 14495	48	180291 180312	129	902260 902275	222	109039 109046	353	102060
1	133290 133298	48	516999 517108	130	145723 145729	225	770708 770716	353	401200 401216
1	61666 61672	48	831594 831750	130	578281 578400	226	521938 521958	353	872861 873007
1	156723 156735	50	996787 996843	130	592651 592732	229	973326 973333	354	6301 6320
1	43501 43518	51	38251 38286	130	868876 869070	231	473858 473862	354	521086 521100
1	843244 843750	51	557235 557250	131	775051 775081	232	851366 851387	357	221974 221987
2	36001 36110	53	820088 820142	133	304285 304306	233	675545 675580	357	824362 824393
2	144890 144891	55	485051 485066	134	54437 54473	235	886671 886679	360	5449 5539
2	850461 850500	57	318578 318593	134	623198 623250	240	558960 558971	360	249055 249058
3	AJ, 19617-19800	58	32575 32579	134	625492 625500	241	386542 386557	367	509525 509542
3	AJ, 19979-20000	58	578577 578917	134	731072 731106	243	139260 139265	369	203359 203359
3	AJ, 20017-20200	58	668203 668250	134	740529 740775	245	277421 277437	369	896491 896674
3	AJ, 20558-20600	58	701329 701959	134	742696 742952	245	718481 718500	371	897789 897794
3	AJ, 20610-20800	58	702001 702145	134	743412 743719	245	892501 892900	372	55218 55218
3	AJ, 20803-21764	59	820882 820978	134	746266 746567	246	765346 765365	372	806411 806440
3	AJ, 21801-21908	64	13574 13582	134	747722 747750	247	318636 318642	373	656076 656080
3	AJ, 22001-22027	64	550951 551257	134	814095 814500	254	905234 905239	377	132632 132673
3	AJ, 22201-22237	64	590613 590688	134	863251 863619	255	56877 56881	377	216105 216116
3	AJ, 222401-222405	65	3636 3645	134	864001 864270	256	516072 516088	379	767736 767749
3	AH, 2578-2600	65	474961 474990	134	864751 865500	257	501783 501799	380	493291 493298
3	AH, 2735-2758	65	967031 967200	134	865501 866250	260	651497 651497	389	974308 974322
3	AH, 2807-2829	66	178731 178746	134	945001 945750	262	449691 449700	390	284168 284217
3	AH, 3002-3006	66	321643 321651	134	945751 946500	262	514087 514117	393	610656 610690
3	AH, 3201-3203	66	653531 653750	134	946501 947252	263	817639 817660	394	974582 974592
3	AH, 14-16	67	523009 523023	135	757579 757599	265	263810 263828	397	72039 72040
3	BJ, 1246-1286	68	59453 59454	136	430412 430455	267	512741 512746	397	668812 668885
3	BH, 106-111	68	436924 436936	136	586808 586856	268	514666 514688	400	723935 723966
3	CJ, 1023-1070	68	799276 799329	137	244585 244591	269	598991 599028	401	637768 637788
3	EJ, 154-224	69	533025 533029	138	899334 899370	270	510973 510983	403	626693 626700
3	HA, 151-244	70	229200 229200	141	879860 879875	271	224577 224577	403	787501 787505
3	OA, 9951-9959	70	254166 254167	145	148523 148524	271	592299 592320	405	8125 8125
3	OA, 11137-11181	72	958680 958687	145	805199 805279	275	758788 758802	406	680983 681000
3	OA, 11581-11600	73	16019 16020	145	570655 570745	277	235554 235562	406	891751 891754
3	OA, 11657-11758	73	22383 22383	150	684186 684206	277	294480 294513	407	618588 618594
3	OA, 11807-11808	73	737115 737201	151	152522 152526	278	6001 6001	408	149325 149325
3	OA, 12001-12003	76	869477 869551	151	860075 860250	278	24888 24900	408	954781 954830
4	254211 254217	77	183573 183622	151	993751 993768	278	28890 28893	409	139525 139526
5	496641 496650	77	974701 975000	152	737401 737425	281	683513 683532	409	758301 758332
5	564151 564200	77	993001 993314	156	520410 520430	284	971944 971971	411	507476 507593
5	923601 923913	79	711465 711528	158	441207 441231	288	613160 613194	413	41111 41115
6	142264 142292	80	716556 716600	159	604423 604477	290	961106 961110	413	437951 437981
6	955574 955765	81	517660 517732	160	164496 164515	291	58804 58806	413	645409 645450
7	897995 898082	82	48320 48320	160	524591 524616	291	342338 342356	415	762360 762371
8	19226 19227	82	45751 45767	161	495068 495086	292	852041 852200	416	754352 754372
8	378790 378854	82	710114 710250	163	906086 906120	293	309230 309245	417	61239 61240
8	595242 595296	84	201663 201689	164	407111 407290	295	775843 775852	417	315602 315624
9	270909 270914	84	292501 292512	164	887871 888000	296	653385 653392	418	471144 471151
9	982141 982440	84	709463 709500	164	944251 944481	302	25913 25914	418	847893 847996
10	246748 246759	84	939751 939797	166	239567 239572	302	290701 290731	421	8041 8070
12	183247 183254	86	548263 548367	166	446836 446851	303	528489 528491	424	8701 8702
14	37484 37499	86	924951 925131	166	517840 517893	304	240242 240253	424	944694 944700
16	217308 217308	87	886104 886108	169	786014 786018	304	959313 959366	425	262173 262178
16	818742 818825	88	663936 663954	173	524766 524766	305	753199 753222	426	951478 951486
17	50992 50993	90	901680 901745	176	478916 478964	306	930038 930080	427	844050 844108
17	958541 959000	91	757253 757262	176	523344 523344	307	248559 248573	429	18984 18990
18	133468 133472	94	940390 940396	177	493469 493524	308	87975 87976	429	191986 191991
18	166457 166500	96	760871 760890	177	673127 673160	308	249294 249300	429	490188 490200
18	813551 813750	96	18689 18689	180	48811 48811	308	770401 770409	429	940551 940524
18	975001 975153	96	212413 212425	180	777054 777127	309	3977 3978	430	195760 195761
21	768917 768929	96	546084 546161	181	657452 657494	309	580839 581153	430	783011 783032
22	142583 142585	97	970850 970860	184	444632 444636	309	954176 954332	431	39349 39354
22	526493 526582	99	48001 48094	185	197327 197328	311	25800 25800	431	798151 798172
22	806067 806188	99	126790 126790	185	730204 730250	311	448501 448511	434	945540 945550
25	900371 900590	99	559871 560080	186	779150 779160	311	889738 889797	435	403856 403880
26	454215 454244	99	882591 882750	190	5120 5151	312	517049 517105	437	222368 222430
26	915982 916089	100	26811 26813	191	778543 778557	318	724664 724687	438	379611 379631
26	933197 933505	100	36988 36992	193	60966 60967	322	958912 958914	438	728667 728712
27	185544 185553	100	283304 283332	193	533691 533717	323	2821 2865	440	785111 785118
28	10992 10992	102	900994 901190	193	589216 589482	323	714418 714583	441	755464 755476
28	129202 129206	102	279452 279453	193	953477 953591	324	698576 698652	443	452181 452220
28	491155 491179	103	135024 135024	194	535329 535367	325	427481 427500	443	768320 768333
28	727270 727288	103	30457 30473	194	30129 30229	325	929251 929327	444	340876 340897
30	493920 493934	103	908469 909622	195	957374 957483	326	207907 207907	445	270513 270516
32	773106 773111	103	347993 348132	196	820843 820898	326	720924 721084	445	241124 241137
33	247230 247239	104	89502 89520	197	522725 522750	332	49003 49003	446	5703 5712
34	573279 573315	104	871813 872035	200	40527 40529	332	28545 28551	449	856526 856543
34	682313 682440	105	488248 488259	200	967684 967780	332	795469 795614	453	480027 480028
37	376121 376121	106	447969 447972	203	501339 501341	333	47251 47284	453	759737 759758
38	136731 136734	106	493794 493800	205	246185 246186	333	719934 720000	458	860375 860386
38	394064 394275	106	773701 773724	205	526066 526081	335	87890 87896	459	234079 234080
38	540926 541300	107	776211 776219	207	688208 688211	336	757814 757834	459	726608 726730
38	554030 554900	108	85423 85427	209	486547 486565	338	168903 168903	460	753936 753940
39	251536 251539	108	921839 921892	210	932263 932340	338	753372 753380	461	835635 835654
39	273482 273488	111	753656 753664	211	565651 565680	339	587037 587086	465	55536 55541
39	889135 889341	113	28029 28035	211	660491 660500	340	733302 733357	465	796223 796296
40	179725 179807	113	483227 483257	212	31078 31087	341	30316 30317	466	62207 62210
40	537849 537900	114	235299 235302	212	81663 81664	341	284150 284168	466	894771 894850
40	579901 580259	116	951028 951065	212	301688 301688	342	644644 644649	467	480458 480466
40	962169 962250	121	254660 254660	212	687405 687542	343	759962 759973	468	666474 666477
40	990001 990430	121	708628 708706	213	412875 412906	344	844572 844586	470	250281 250288
40	990751 990781	122	44818 44822	213	410607 410640	347	821663		



L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS		
481	803987	804000	613	453918	453926	724	274117	274143	886	443018	443042
481	963001	963172	613	899026	899250	724	496855	496864	887	280977	
483	23781		613	930751	930790	724	667252	667299	887	719064	719147
483	23821	23822	614	732216	732222	726	777623	777631	889	161182	161183
483	807206	807353	615	239976	239984	728	771613	771626	889	774367	774411
488	451849	451869	617	795731	795750	729	622735	622741	890	786908	786922
488	549591	549637	618	282529	282527	730	275002		892	959566	959573
492	543616	543659	618	858195	858238	730	491010	491029	893	782424	782432
493	896590	896604	619	482231	482237	731	228462		896	275898	275926
497	51015	51022	622	584770	584775	731	857316	857370	896	451507	451508
497	204691	204700	623	25516	25519	732	1824	1845	896	765927	765939
500	42001	42020	623	729195	729217	732	515601	515641	897	781565	781595
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501	94866	94892	630	760251	760282	734	891497	891612	901	504457	504479
501	549862	549900	631	514339	514360	735	760529	760535	902	782130	782177
501	566401	566528	632	509259	509300	736	967387	967392	903	274656	
501	885357	885531	633	269880	269883	745	163506	163508	903	490254	490258
502	58475		633	762076	762109	745	501116	501124	908	500527	500531
502	885560	885569	634	958706	958723	748	241787	241789	909	293101	293115
504	63020	63021	636	918018	918050	748	505695	505749	909	771901	771918
504	814079	814088	637	767415	767435	749	165931		912	6245	6256
507	506425	506427	640	33456	33458	749	751297	751311	912	594721	594750
508	235663	Original	640	621483	621512	757	752243	752265	912	934501	934515
508	421777	421825	642	769216	769246	758	270298		914	379012	379024
509	669458	669465	643	523821	523836	758	855219	855276	918	516669	516685
510	35341	35344	644	227265		769	879419	879473	919	923190	923192
515	631930	631937	644	482663	482684	763	7501	7521	923	174006	174022
521	234369	234371	646	756989	756989	763	521387	521400	923	785757	785819
521	904595	905648	647	972100	972111	764	502302	502325	928	518932	518957
526	945835	945841	648	420745	420770	770	81646	81650	937	672693	672710
528	845618	845696	648	917268	917365	770	723215	723314	940	510218	510242
530	485796	485804	649	836506	836615	772	756332	756337	948	31716	
532	43845		650	6901	6939	774	77733		948	520157	520161
532	706040	706086	650	281586	281589	774	766326	766384	948	562150	562197
536	905596	905601	653	778839	778911	775	484691	484708	953	759096	759108
537	251566	251589	656	515191	515210	777	242627	242633	956	83971	83976
538	19227	19249	657	962277	962284	779	249574	249583	958	242760	242763
539	497515	497525	658	750357	750362	783	775531	775531	963	313728	313738
540	251271	251287	660	8524	8531	784	468477	468500	970	253726	253731
544	41445	41446	660	192846	192847	785	11101	11117	970	780677	780718
544	51751	51775	660	513106	513126	B-785	241201	241221	972	492029	492031
544	548149	548250	661	240537	240549	790	752540	752563	978	784510	784513
548	621272	621272	663	186150	186159	792	755754	755761	991	186608	186610
549	50251	50275	663	589719	589746	794	85501	85585	991	767127	767134
549	11842		663	832772	832822	794	39804	39808	995	751112	751134
549	551218	551250	B-663 Mem. 240384-240456		794	175702	175706	996	65378	65385	
551	66574	66578	B-663 App. 240583-240585		794	841303	841500	997	238083	238092	
552	95948	95956	664	674561	674586	796	174668	174672	1002	149299	149300
553	227015	227024	666	439729	439741	796	786601	786607	1002	149485	149485
554	278456	278458	666	937501	937587	798	595694	595711	1002	529375	529416
554	931538	931608	668	481680	481690	800	168333	168334	B-1008 Mem. 37522-37544		
555	561180	561191	669	242029	242033	800	758557	758591	B-1008 App. 37551-37552		
556	481122	481135	670	776734	776741	801	260141	260147	B-1011 Mem. 240046-240124		
557	197931	197932	673	663609	663622	801	905278	905317	B-1011 App. 240135-240137		
557	782708	782717	674	243066	243080	802	237157	237162	B-1015 App. 225301-225324		
558	95372	95380	674	262421	262425	805	174341		B-1015 Mem. 225301-225330		
558	768748	768845	675	178150	178166	805	786343	786355	1032	52206	
559	706622	706636	676	83379	83382	807	523689	523732	1032	932955	932963
561	903342	903505	677	20174	20175	807	266273	266274	1036	236979	236992
562	511560	511564	677	873845	873871	811	774001	774005	1037	405346	405445
564	741091	741100	678	242051	242053	B-814	8401	8467	1047	664765	664793
567	542216	542250	678	515834	515870	B-814	240601	240682	1054	234747	234751
567	935251	935263	679	955577	955578	817	128060	128086	1072	859070	859076
568	370940	370963	680	957134	957135	817	922691	922694	1086	705181	705205
569	21789		681	521517	521531	819	512166	512177	1091	520086	520105
569	837639	837750	683	16722	16727	820	144857	144861	1095	725396	725422
570	175501	175502	683	715010	715092	824	237791	237795	1101	7801	7805
570	496647	496656	684	500252	500266	831	165106	165119	1101	940796	940800
573	903882	903891	685	634013	634031	831	520668	520798	1108	513658	513666
574	28312	28313	686	429208	429222	833	492751	492751	1118	965376	965392
574	823896	823997	688	890826	890833	835	226053	226056	1135	59251	59258
575	491131	491141	693	503171	503176	838	761462	761485	1135	974075	974100
577	484401	484413	694	673859	673903	840	971563	971571	1141	170118	170122
580	774748	774783	695	816181	816204	841	516347	516358	1141	534582	534626
581	924071	924130	697	51340	51341	842	625106	625116	1141	822527	822530
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583	490488	490500	697	991587	991654	844	265722	265725	1151	85541	85543
584	140371	140373	698	233326	233336	846	276239	276245	1151	658030	658048
584	574985	575054	701	960102	960121	846	492449	492500	1154	4724	
584	647943	647991	B-702	162448	162449	848	660924	660942	1154	30948	30949
585	861121	861178	B-702	785459	785466	852	505086	505112	1154	777956	777974
586	770104	770116	702	977414	977513	854	884387	884408	1156	416953	416966
588	384686	384720	704	160192	160210	855	522134	522161			
589	870546	870620	708	500809	500824	856	498541	498551			
590	950982	950989	710	487625	487638	857	511326	511336			
591	751641	751665	711	5299		861	778240	778248			
595	46090		711	698243	698250	862	10340	10382			
595	69001	69140	711	994501	994558	863	840772	840783			
595	474362	474370	712	583688	583702	864	550466	550500			
595	854227	854250	713	182559	182592	864	942001	942015			
596	440860	440865	713	571781	571861	865	10292	10295			
597	779733	779745	713	855864	855956	865	713709	713795			
600	930722	930728	B-713	39001	39005	869	441738	441750			
601	61510	61512	714	657583	657590	870	422647	422671			
601	148735	148742	716	26585	26593	872	772201	772211			
601	755262	755283	716	290043	290076	873	750680	750700			
602	518527	518551	716	603571	603750	876	781249	781271			
604	261001	261006	716	997501	997510	878	274354				
604	510884	510900	717	9898	9899	878	488461	488465			
604	941251	941298	717	670080	670140	881	783327	783355			
611	27623	27642	719	554079	554120	886	150601				
613											



# ON EVERY JOB

## There's a Laugh & Two

Here's a new contributor to our col, but by gosh, he describes an experience that is one of the universal sorrows of all mankind who work with tools.

### The Old Tool Box

Before the depression set in,  
A tool box had I, all shiny and new;  
Of tools it held plenty,  
Of some there were two.

To a neighbor with a frozen pipe,  
My gasoline torch I lent.  
Two weeks later, it came back,  
Burner twisted, also a big dent.

Son-in-law's car fails to run—  
A chisel and hammer were all his needs.  
Did they come back? I'll say not!  
I found them out in the weeds.

Friend wife a ham bone had,  
She wished to make it two.  
Out went my compass saw—  
Now it's all out of true.

The radio nut living next door,  
A hole he wished for his aerial wire.  
My brace bit he borrowed with ease,  
Now the chuck I've had to retire.

A Klein eight-inch is a handy tool,  
Which any "narrowback" will agree;  
Don't ever lend it, sez I,  
For a hole in the cutter you'll see.

But I finally got me a job,  
After time had gone on and on;  
Started looking for those tools of mine—  
And found they were all gone!

CORN COB WILLIE,  
L. U. No. 8, Toledo, Ohio.

\* \* \*

### No Sale

I remember this one as told me in Aberdeen some few years ago. McIntosh wrote to Birmingham, England, asking a paper company to forward a packet of shaving paper to him and Mac forgot to enclose the price.

He received a reply referring him to page 445 of the company's catalogue, where it was distinctly stated, "All small orders should be accompanied by a remittance." And Mac hastily replied:

"Dear Sirs: If I had been possessed of a catalogue with 445 pages I should not have written for any shaving paper. Please send the catalogue now, and oblige."

M. J. BUTLER,  
L. U. No. 3.

\* \* \*

### Bedtime Story

Wifey to hubby: "Baby's beginning to talk! Listen! Baby, say 'da-da'!"

Baby says something that sounds like this: "Oksum-Makale-Abbi Addi-Addis-Abbaba!"

Hubby: "Haile Selassie! The kid's been reading the newspapers."

WILLIAM E. HANSON,  
L. U. No. 103.

Another new correspondent who's got the stuff! Come again, Brother Lon.

### A Lineman's Dream

Who balls the jack while others sleep,  
And barges on where others creep,  
And laughs at snow and mud so deep  
That lesser men do naught but weep?  
The lineman.

Who carries on when others quit,  
And never fails to do his bit,  
When narrow-backs and foremen, too,  
Have caved clear in and fallen through?  
The lineman.

Who takes his liquor straight and clear,  
And broadcasts so that all may hear  
That he's the best that ever blew  
Into this town or to this crew?  
The lineman.

Who takes his women as they come,  
Nor cares a damn where they are from?  
Who likes them tall and short and fat,  
And lean and this and those and that?  
The lineman.

Who bawls the foreman, grunts and chief  
Till all the gang are filled with grief  
That such a crab was ever born,  
To rant and rave till night from morn?  
The lineman.

Who rips and snorts and tears his hair,  
And throws his voice on the morning air,  
When the job is hard and the pay is low,  
And the boss is tough and the grunt is slow?  
The lineman.

Who sets the pole and hangs the pot  
And phases in and cuts her hot,  
And scorns to clear or kill the line,  
For the wheels must roll and the lights must shine?  
The lineman.

And when we've crossed the River Styx,  
And hell's so dark that the crowds can't mix,  
Who'll light her up and make her glow,  
So the devil will pack his grip and go?  
The lineman.

LON LAWTON,  
L. U. No. 125, Bonneville, Oreg.

\* \* \*

### Wirepatchers' Kiddies

Teacher: Where are elephants found?  
Jimmy: Well, they're so big they don't get lost.

\* \* \*

A mother took her 12-year-old son out to dinner for the first time. Everything went well—she thought—till several days later when she went through her son's pockets and found one of the napkins from that dinner. She inquired where he got it, to which he replied, "Why, that's the handkerchief that was left at my plate. Didn't you get one?"

JOHN MORRALL,  
L. U. No. 134.

And the old Duke is with us again! Welcome, pal! And this is a hunting story to end—

### Hunting Stories

The new year brings an end  
To the hunting season here,  
And also ends the stories  
Of the hunters one must hear.

I've heard of rabbits that grow antlers,  
And roam around like deer;  
And possums as big as buffaloes  
Have often been seen here.

Partridges as big as turkeys,  
And one on every limb;  
And ducks so thick on marshes  
There isn't room to swim!

The pheasants, too, are plentiful,  
But not like they were before.  
The average was three to a shot this year,  
While last year it was four.

Wild geese have been thinned, it seemed,  
When migration first begun;  
For it was only seven days this year  
Before we could see the sun.

It must be sport when hunting  
Where the game is really wild,  
For here we all use lariats—  
A trick we learn while a child.

All highways have steel enclosures,  
To keep fox squirrels from our path,  
As they enjoy upsetting autos,  
Then gore the occupants to death.

But I'm glad the season's over,  
Still next year it'll be the same—  
We will wear a suit of armor,  
To protect us from the game.

THE DUKE OF TOLEDO,  
L. U. No. 245.

\* \* \*

Here's a greeting by Masterson to some of his pals. We had a different version of this sent in by Hendrick, but this is the official one.

### My Pals

Edward Kelly wears spurs of steel,  
A belt and safety a good deal;  
He's a wiretwister from afar—  
But he strings his wires before a bar.

An inside gainer is Cleveland Slim,  
He has the biggest feet on him;  
And a job he gets now and then,  
Because I know of eight or ten.

A trouble shooter is Percy Gunn,  
He looks for trouble just for fun.  
He's fond of eating and likes a meal,  
But chicken, he says, has no sex appeal.

When I look over my spectacles' brim,  
I can't see Billy McCarthy, nor Jim,  
But when I listen in on a party line,  
Sure, I get an ear-full that's fine!

JOHN F. MASTERSON, I. O.





THERE is an increasing demand today for objective minimum standards in our social and industrial life. Nineteenth century philosophy assumed that these standards could be secured through private enterprise. We now find that private enterprise, whether individual or group, is no longer equal to the task. We, therefore, look to government to enforce minimum standards to which private enterprise is unequal. \* \* \* We have reached the parting of the ways in our whole philosophy of American government. During the past three years government has entered many fields that were regarded as part of the domain of individual and group enterprise. Government has entered these fields by force of necessity.

RT. REV. MSGR. JOHN O'GRADY,  
*Dean, School of Social Work,*  
Catholic University.

